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NEW YORK'S  
LESBIAN  
AND GAY  
NEWS  
MAGAZINE

# OUT WEEK

AIDS  
100,000  
AND COUNTING...

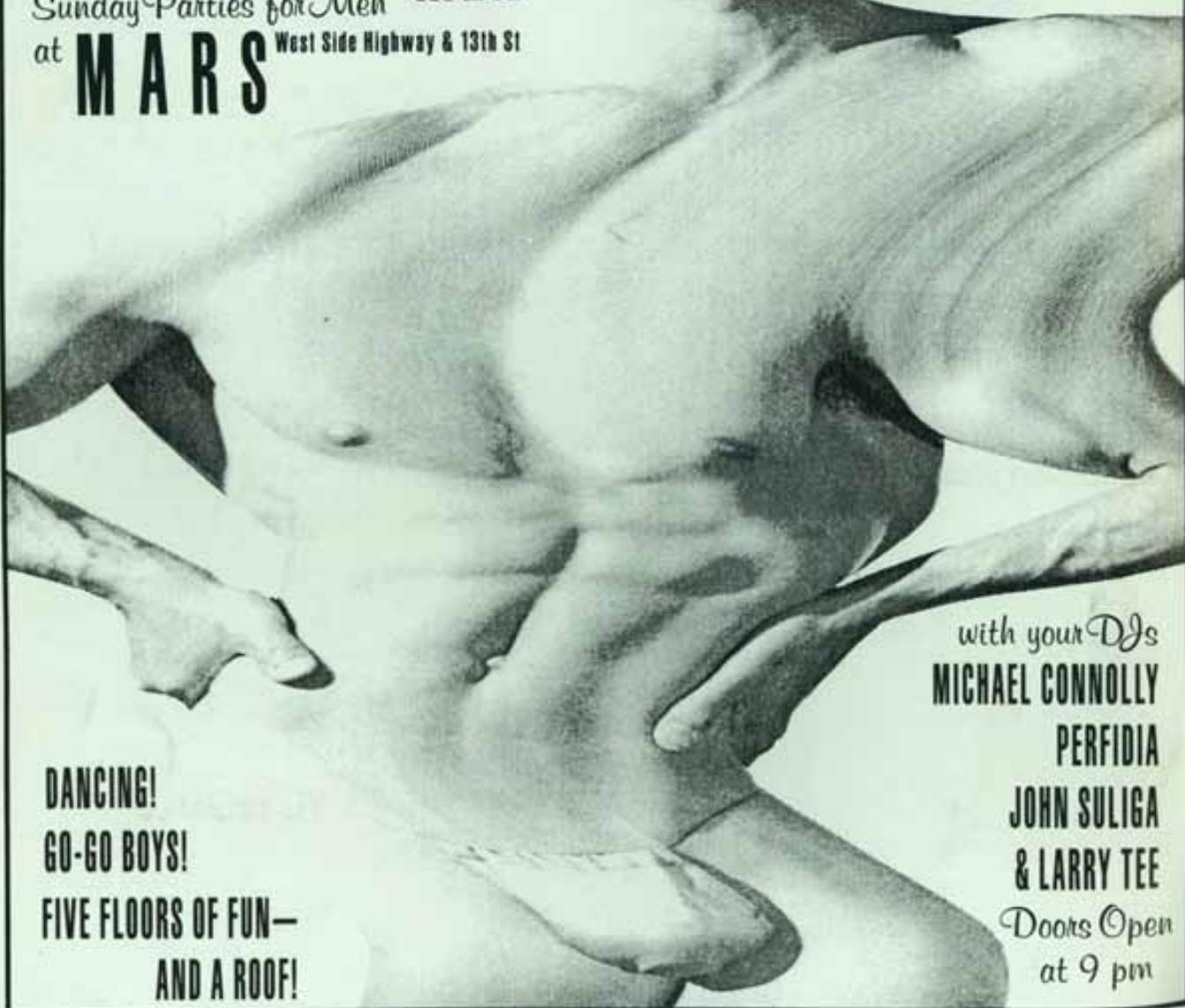
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## PROVINCETOWN WAS A PISSER

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Photo: Crouch / Raeburn

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On the cover:

D.C. AIDS Vigil, October 1988  
photo by Reinhard / Impact Visuals

# OUTSPOKEN

## Do The Right Thing

**O**ne hundred thousand people. Over half are dead. It's astounding. Somehow, deep down, we thought — or hoped — that AIDS would never be associated with so many digits.

Think about the first few cases in the early part of the decade and think about what went through your mind: "Oh, it's nothing major." "Oh, I'll never get it." Amazingly, many people, including many in the gay and lesbian community, are still in such a state of denial, of ignorance, of disinterest. And we wonder just what it will take for them to do something beyond simply reading this and going on with business as usual.

What will it take for some people to act; to get angry about the fact that the rich, straight, white men who run this country would prefer to see us all dead?



The disease carries on at lightening speed. The first 100,000 cases took over 10 years to emerge. The next 100,000 are expected to surface within 15 months. 15 months! No, AIDS has not "peaked." It has not "saturated." It has not "run its course." Instead, it continues to ravage the gay community and other disenfranchised, "disposable" communities. Many of the first 100,000 people with AIDS are — and the great majority of the next 100,000 will be — Blacks, Latinos, women, children, prisoners, and IV drug users. But for Mayor Koch, for Governor Cuomo, for President Bush, for Jesse Helms and the rest of the U.S. Senate, for William Dannemeyer and the House of Representatives, for the Supreme Court, for Arthur Sulzberger and *The New York Times*, for Jerry Falwell, for Donna Summer, for Pat Robertson, for Coors Beer, and for much of the vast, straight, white populace, AIDS simply has not affected "real" people yet.

Our only alternative is to show them we're real. To show them we're angry, to show them we're strong. All of us — all of the communities affected by AIDS, and, for that matter, all of the communities now without health care and the right to control their own reproductive lives — must join together and fight.

Subject your local, state and federal government representatives to relentless, unyielding pressure. Get into the streets and yell, scream, block traffic and disrupt others' lives the way ours have been disrupted. March on City Hall, Albany, the White House, the house of any public figure who is not doing as much as he or she should be to end this crisis. Rebel against governmental neglect, racism, sexism and homophobia. Fight the powers that be.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## THE FORCE BE WITH YOU

I was delighted to purchase a copy of your fifth issue when recently visiting Greenwich Village. I warmly and wholeheartedly welcome your publication. I hope *OutWeek* will faithfully serve its readers in an intelligent, professional, and conscientious manner.

Since the departure of Brett Averill from the *New York Native* some six (6!) years ago, and the subsequent (and regrettable) demise of *The Connection*, Manhattan has not had an ethical publication capable of serving its gay community. Virtually the entire gay press knows of—and is appalled by—the anile and disreputable nature of *Native* pub-

lisher Charles L. Ortleb, and his increasingly decrepit family of rag sheets.

As Spock might say, "Live long and prosper!"

Rich Grzeslak  
Philadelphia

## LUBE TALE

Regarding Michelangelo Signorile's lube story (*Looking For Lube In All The Wrong Places*, No. 6, July 31): I remember that several years ago when I got a haircut in my hometown of Amsterdam in the Netherlands, a gay American tourist (to me he looked like a gay college professor from the Midwest) walked into the barber shop cum cosmetics store and asked for KY.



Photo: T.L. Litt

"What is it for?" asked the salesman.

"It is a lubricant for the health," answered the American tourist.

"I have something similar," answered the salesman, and showed a Dutch product that has the same effect as Ben-Gay. I saw it in my mirror while I was getting my haircut and yelled, "Don't

buy it! It will burn your ass-hole!" At that moment I wished I had a camera.

PS. When you write an article that you are looking for a lubricant, the male readers may be anxious to know how much you use per day, per week.

Ben Schmidgall  
Manhattan

## SMUT SPAT

I'm familiar enough with myopic, knee-jerk defenses of the sexist pornography trade by propornography gay-liberationists such as Jack Nichols, which is why I wrote the essay he inveighs against to begin with. Nevertheless, his would-be review of my book, *Refusing To Be A Man* (*OutWeek*, No. 6, July 31), confounds me on two counts.

One: can anybody even dimly aware of Al

by Daniel Sotomayor



Goldstein's rabidly anti-lesbian and misogynist publication really take seriously Nichol's paean to him? (I guess they can. It's a freely pornographized country.)

And two: Why didn't Nichols deal at all with my book? The essay that he freaks out about at such length - "You Can't Fight Homophobia and Protect the Pornographers at the Same Time" - isn't even in the book. But there's a lot else that is that he ignores: a radical new look at the relationship of homophobia to the sex-class system, for instance, the role of father-son eroticism in the family and in warfare, how sex films manipulate our experience of "good sex," the function of phallic eroticism in the antiabortion crusade... all topics rather worth discussion, I should think, in a news journal with *OutWeek's* aspirations to relevance. But Nichols grinds an ax all his own: The only evidence he gives of actually having read anything in *Refusing to be a Man* is his passing reference to its footnotes. Can other authors expect such probity in your pages as well, or do I get to be the only one?

John Stoltenberg

Brooklyn

Jack Nichols replies:

I've got plenty of empathy with Stoltenberg's attempt to cover important issues, but he sadly shoots himself in the foot by aggressively recommending legal witch-hunts against publishers and persons who distribute what he defines as pornography. His larger contribution suffers while he remains an exitable ideologue who fudges on freedom of expression. He's no Voltaire who'd defend with his life a person's right to his or her say. He ignores a second reference to his book in my review, his quoted sentence predicting a definitive

upcoming history for his "influential" cause, a future glory I do not foresee.

#### OVER ACT UP

Re "Giuliani Picketed at Face-Off With Les/Gay Leaders" issue of July 31. I quote: "Manhoff said that members of ACT UP had been denied access to breakfast forums in the past, and that there may be some form of protest against the forum taken by ACT UP in the future." A number of paragraphs later we read, "Do you regard homosexuality as not a preference, not a choice, but natural and normal as a variation on the spectrum of human sexu-



Photo: T.L. Litt

al orientation?" asked Ann Northrop of ACT UP.

So, which is it? Was ACT UP invited into the Forum? If they were not, how did Northrop ask her question? Please clarify.

Also, you babble on re the so-called biased viewpoint that *The New York Native* has in reporting the news. However, in your issue of July 31, reference to, or quotes from members of ACT UP appear no less than ten times in your news section. Check it out.

David Felstein  
Astoria

(In the July 31 issue, ACT UP members are quoted in two out of 13 news arti-

cles. One dealt with the Giuliani breakfast, the other with Bristol-Myers' release of ddI, a new AIDS treatment for which ACT UP had a great deal of responsibility. Not to elicit comment from a group which was a part of the story would have been journalistically unfair.

As to the Giuliani breakfast, the article could have more clearly indicated that ACT UP's presence at that meeting was the result of pressure from ACT UP, and did not represent a standing invitation. —Editor)

#### KOCH ON KATZ

As the mayor stated on Gay Cable Network in June, he will soon issue an Executive Order establishing a process for city employees to register their domestic partners coupled with a bereavement leave benefit provision - an important step forward for our community. We would like to respond to Sandor Katz' inaccurate commentary ("Koch's Domestic Deceit," *OutWeek*, July 31) about this forthcoming Executive Order.

Contrary to Mr. Katz' statement that the Mayor "jumped on the (domestic partner) bandwagon" after the State Court of Appeals decision in the Miguel Braschi case, the Mayor's legal staff submitted a friend-of-the-court brief on behalf of Mr. Braschi that helped shape the court's favorable decision. In that brief, the city urged an expansion of the definition of family to include a domestic partner in lease succession rights for rent stabilized apartments. The Mayor wrote:

"I strongly support this bill (A.9545), which is based upon the existing Rent Stabilization Code, and believe it is an appropriate place to begin debate on succession rights. However, this bill doesn't go far enough. It

doesn't protect an unrelated individual who may have resided for years with the tenant of record, if the tenant dies or is permanently hospitalized. For example, a friend or relative living with a senior citizen who dies or a gay man whose partner has died of AIDS could be evicted. Such individuals have just suffered a tremendous personal loss and it would, in my judgment, be unconscionable to add to their burdens the possibility that they might lose their apartment."

The Mayor has been a supporter of domestic partnerships long before Mr. Katz would lead his readers to believe—if anything the Mayor gave the bandwagon wheels.

The Mayor was not being deceitful when he said that he cannot unilaterally alter benefits for union employees. The Taylor law which governs city/union negotiations states that benefits must be considered "terms and conditions of employment" and are consequently a mandatory subject of collective bargaining. The Mayor has made it clear that he supports bereavement leave for a domestic partner of a city employee, but his benefit must be collectively bargained with the unions.

Mr. Katz says that the Mayor favors domestic partnerships but his "negotiators keep saying no" when the issue is put on the bargaining table. What Mr. Katz doesn't say is that what was put on the table was bereavement leave affecting domestic partners combined with a bereavement leave provision for grandparents. Bereavement leave for domestic partners alone was not considered.

What Mr. Katz' commentary attempted to do was cast a shadow over the good news coming from City Hall. Art Leonard, former President of the Bar Association



for Human Rights of Greater New York, framed the significance of the domestic partner issue so well when he said, "but it seems clear that having attained decriminalization and nondiscrimination, the next step for our community is to seek equal treatment in the sphere of family life." The Mayor's Executive Order will be an important step in this direction.

Lee Hudson  
Jan Carl Park  
Mayor's Office for the  
Lesbian and Gay Community

**Sandor Katz Replies:**

On June 23rd I sat in Lee Hudson's office and she told me that, yes, the mayor supports the idea of extending benefits to domestic partners, and yes, the city had submitted a brief in the Braschi case. But she said beyond that the Mayor's hands were tied, there was no action he could take to advance the legal recognition of lesbian and gay and other non-spousal relationships.

What makes this executive order possible today where it was impossible a month ago or a year ago? Nothing outside the mayor's control has changed. State law didn't change. Union position didn't change. Ed Koch decided that it was politically advantageous, that's all that changed. Frankly I'm thrilled that he did. But why did it take so long, until just months before

the primary? Why did the mayor's office block the Law Department when it said the city could legally extend bereavement leave rights more than a year ago? And why is the mayor opposing the Gay Teachers Union in its suit against the Board of Education for domestic partner benefits? Is the mayor with us, or is he against us?

We should get support and action from City Hall, and hopefully after the election we'll get some.

**BECHDEL BUTCHERS**

Please stop butchering Bechdel! *Dykes To Watch Out For* was clearly drawn for a larger format. As she



appears in your magazine, reduced to half the intended size, it looks cramped, crowded, claustrophobic. The fine lines in the drawing disappear as often as not.

I'm sure that most of your readers who aren't already familiar with this fine work think, "Ugh! Some nice ideas, but what a hideous, cramped, crowded, claustrophobic strip!"

End the reduction of major lesbian cartoonists now! Liberate Bechdel!

John Wagenhauser  
Washington Heights

**MAD AT MAGAZINE**

I just returned from almost three weeks in Vienna and Budapest and—as a reporter for the gay press—found precisely 217

gay and lesbian newspapers and magazines from the U.S. and 10 other countries awaiting my perusal.

I resolved to tackle this Pile From Hell with intense abandon, wildly flipping through pages, maniacally flinging the pride and joy of Rochester and Seattle in the direction of the overflowing garbage sack from Jewel (a Chicago grocery chain). Translation: I planned to read the first word of every article and skip 99 percent of them.

Imagine, then, my horror and anger upon discovering that the first sentence in more than half of the articles in the four back issues of *OutWeek* pulled me in, grabbed me by the cajones and demanded slow digestion all the way through to the very last word.

Just who do you think you are anyway? And does this mean I'm gonna end up living in New York some day, paying \$1,500 a month for a studio apartment with bugs?

Rex Wockner  
Chicago, IL

**SYPHILLIS ATTACK**

I must respond to the outrageous letter from author Robert Ben Mitchell, published in the July 31 issue, condemning *OutWeek's* unwillingness to serialize his book on AIDS and syphilis.

Although it is hard to imagine from Mitchell's diatribe, he has actually written a temperate, meticulously researched book. It documents the numerous connections between AIDS and late-stage syphilis, and shows how widespread medical inadequacies in syphilis testing and treatment (now acknowledged by several leading medical experts) may have inadvertently spawned a new epidemic. After Mitchell told me that 20 publishers rejected his manuscript, I agreed to become his literary agent.

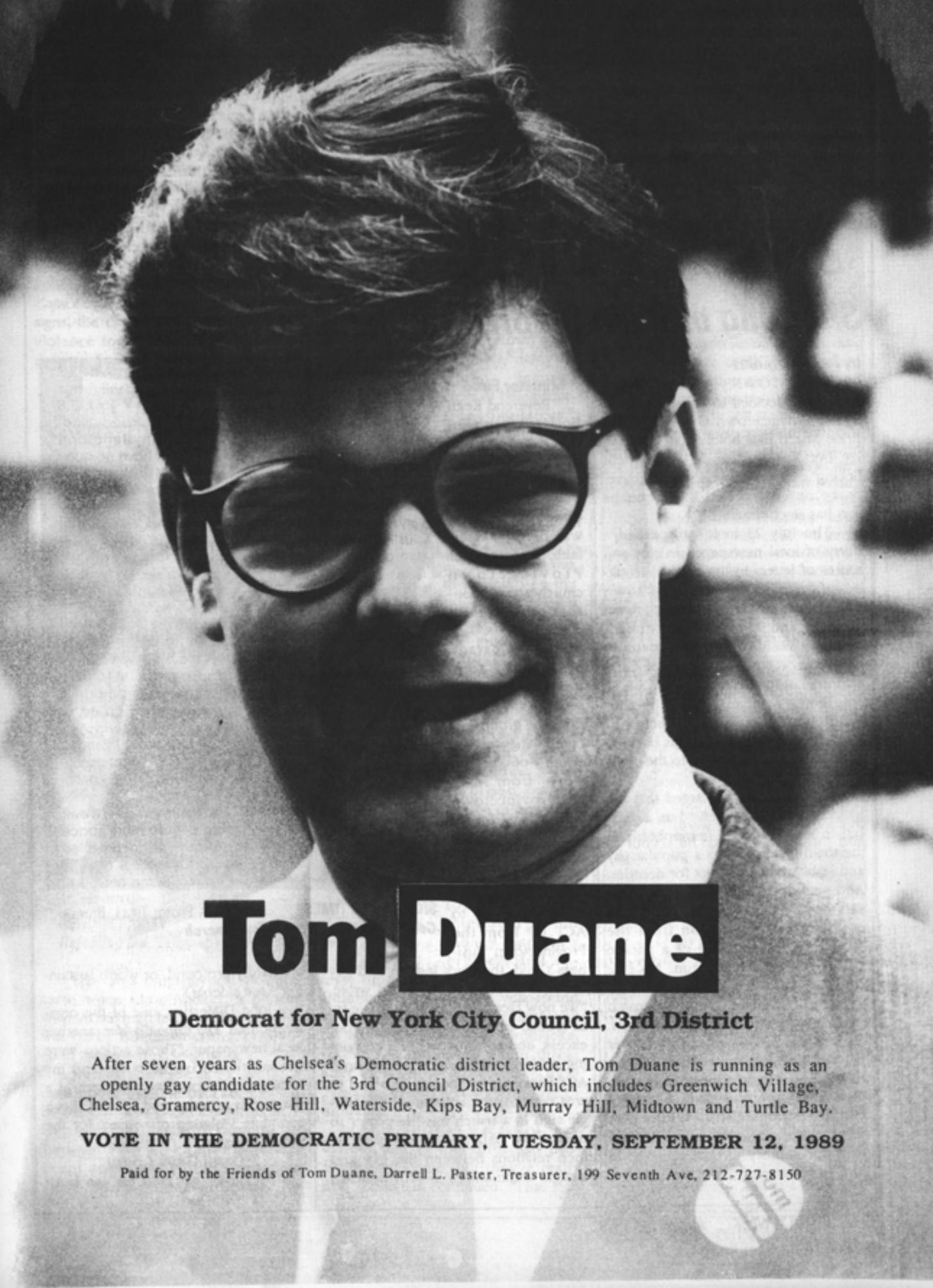
I believe the AIDS community vitally needs access to his detailed presentation offering new treatment options to consider. This is especially necessary to undo the trivialization of these theories by Charles Orleb's sensational, conspiratorial presentations in the *Native*. Orleb's crackpot journalism has done more to close minds than any propaganda for the medical establishment.

Unfortunately, however, like so many alternative AIDS theorists, Mitchell has responded to the gay/AIDS community's closed-mindedness with hysteria and abusiveness. I have no quarrel with *OutWeek's* decision not to serialize a book that was previously serialized by the *Native*. And I know that *OutWeek's* editors are open-minded about alternative theories, as shown by their uncensored publishing of my alternative/holistic treatment column every three weeks (including a brief presentation of the AIDS-syphilis theory in Issue #1). Mitchell's unwarranted, vicious attack on *OutWeek* and on editor Andrew Miller offends me deeply, and I have informed Mitchell that I cannot continue as his agent if he continues such behavior.

I believe *OutWeek* should devote more space to serious, well-documented unorthodox theories on AIDS causes, co-factors and treatments. It is vital—a matter of life and death—to keep the dialogue open. But I completely agree with Andrew Miller's comment that letters such as Mitchell's have absolutely no place in that dialogue, and do more than anything else to kill it.

Sincerely,  
Bob Lederer

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# P-Town In Furor Over Pride March

## *Shooting of PWA Ignored In Clamor Over Sign*

by Andrew Miller

PROVINCETOWN — When Walter Armstrong decided to carry a placard in the Provincetown Gay & Lesbian Pride March that boldly stated "legalize butt fucking" and "legalize clit licking" on front and back, respectively, he never expected the brouhaha that has since resulted.

The July 23 incident sparked a flurry of local newspaper articles and scores of letters to the editors, resulted in a special meeting of town Selectmen (Provincetown's town council) and angered both straight and gay residents of this usually sleepy resort town at the tip of Cape Cod in Massachusetts.

James J. Meads, the Provincetown fire chief, said that the sign had "set gay and straight relations back 40 years or more," according to the *Cape Cod Times*, a local paper.

But others have charged that the incident has merely served as a catalyst to unleash latent homophobia in the town that has been a popular gay and lesbian vacation spot for decades. And some of the march participants said they were angry that the sign received more attention from the town than the shooting of a parade participant with a BB gun. No one has been arrested in the incident.

Usually a quiet candlelight march for 200, this year's parade was larger, louder, and more political than ever before. That led the police chief to request from the Selectmen parade regulations that would include a code of ethics. Tensions also developed on Sunday afternoon when marchers tried to spontaneously reroute the parade past Provincetown's Town Hall.

### Minister Fired

Reverend Keith Boyles, a gay minister who was one of the parade's organizers, has been publicly denounced and was fired by Inter-faith, a coalition of Provincetown churches that sponsors the yearly event.

Other parade organizers took pains to publicly separate themselves from the group carrying the signs, some of whom were from ACT UP/Provincetown and at least ten of whom were from ACT UP/New York.

In a letter (which was printed in local papers) to ACT UP from the Provincetown Business Guild, the city's lesbian and gay business association, the Guild wrote, "We now face great hostility as we try to rebuild trust, to apologize for your excess, and to do so while maintaining pride in who and what we are." ACT UP's angry response, also sent to area newspapers, countered, "If a single sign in a march has the power to upset this 'balance' so completely, then relations between the gay and straight communities in Provincetown



SIGN OF THE TIMES

*Controversial poster at P-Town march*

Photo: Tina L. Browne

are hardly profound, or worth sustaining" (see sidebar).

John DiMestico, one of the organizers, told *The Cape Codder*, another local newspaper, "Those actions were not sanctioned by the board and my feeling is of shock. We were put in a dangerous situation and I feel it was a complete violation of respect for the police," he said.

### Local Gays Angry

And local gay and lesbian busi-

ness owners lined up to denounce the day's events. "We regret that extremists have managed to alienate the very people they had hoped to win over," said Robert Vetrick, a member of the Provincetown Business Guild, in *The Cape Codder*.

For others, simply the unwanted exuberance of the demonstration was offensive. "It isn't just the signs," Police Chief James J. Meads told *The Cape Codder*. "But when you take the signs, the chanting, and the threat of violence together, it was an act of defiance."

Provincetown business. Summoned to the August 3 meeting were the town manager, the chief of police, the Board of Selectmen, and representatives from the Business Guild and ACT UP. Sources in ACT UP/Provincetown said that the group will attend the meeting only to listen, and will decide how it will participate in the August parade afterwards.

ACT UP members said they were surprised, disappointed and angered by the lack of support they received from members of Provincetown's lesbian and gay community, many of whom accused them of being "outside agitators," despite the fact that many are year-round or regular summer residents of Provincetown.

#### "Uncle Tom Reaction"

"Our goal was to put AIDS on the table, because it's been hidden on the side streets," said Paul deRenzi, a member of ACT UP/Provincetown who was also on the Gay and Lesbian Pride Planning Committee. "I'm surprised by the degree of homophobia, and the gay community's Uncle Tom reaction. The gay leaders in P-town are more interested in money than their brothers and sisters,

or AIDS," he told *OutWeek*. DeRenzi, a 35-year-old year-round resident who runs an art gallery, said he and his lover, Eric Kendricks, received a telephone death threat after their names appeared in local papers in connection with the week's incidents.

"This is the mecca of gay tourism, and it's touted that gay people are welcome, but they're really not," deRenzi continued. "That sign



#### GENDER PARITY

*Rejecting the "language of their oppressors."*

Photo: Tina L. Browne

The day's only physical violence came when Chris Alvarez, a person with AIDS marching in the parade, was hit by BB-gun shot that originated in the crowd of spectators.

As *OutWeek* went to press, a closed-door meeting had been called by the Business Guild to discuss ACT UP's participation in the August 16 Carnival Parade, a raucous annual event sponsored by the Business Guild that functions as booster for

## An Open Letter to ACT UP

Your organization has done ours a great disservice. For twelve years the Provincetown Business Guild has operated to promote tourism in our town, predominantly, though not exclusively, gay tourism. Most of our members are gay and lesbian business people. Some of us were born here, others have lived and worked here for decades. We are active, contributing citizens. As such, we have enjoyed a greater degree of freedom, not just tolerance, than is afforded to gay people in most places in this country. Living in this town, we don't often feel our rights are violated.

For the past three years, we have held a Lesbian and Gay Pride March, not to make a statement to local people, but in sympathy with the National Gay Rights Movement. In that way, our statement had a national impact, precisely because we have been a place where gays can live and work and contribute and be valued.

This year, on July 23, at a march larger than ever before, a member of your organization carried a sign that can only be described as obscene. Appearing near the front of the parade, it had the effect of characterizing the entire march, and it enraged nearly everyone, gay or straight. Local people, who have not deserved to be affronted and insulted, in their anger have blamed the Guild, as well as other organizations affiliated with gays in the town. That sign and its association with all who marched, has alienated our friends and given bigots a focus for their hatred. This is what you have done to us and to the cause of gay and lesbian rights. Much of the rhetoric of today's movement seeks to shift emphasis away from sexual behavior and toward human rights. That sign did more to move the emphasis back than any mob of fundamentalists could do.

We now face great hostility as we try to rebuild trust, to apologize for your excess, and to do so while maintaining pride in who and what we are. You have done us a very great disservice.

Philippe D'Auteuil, President  
Provincetown Business Guild



#### HIKE ON BIKE

*Grand Marshall Rollerena is hoisted onto "float" by Moving Violations members.*

Photo: Steve Crouch / Roberta Raeburn

## An Open Letter from ACT UP/Provincetown

In response to the recent controversy over the Lesbian and Gay Pride March here on July 23, ACT UP Provincetown (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) would like to present our position.

First and foremost, we are not "outside agitators." ACT UP Provincetown is largely composed of year-round town residents.

The only outside agitator present at the march was the person who shot at the crowd with a BB gun and injured a marcher. That person came with the intent of harming someone regardless of any signs, and regardless of whether the march was a candlelight vigil or a proud celebration of lesbian and gay pride.

To see the local lesbian and gay community fall all over themselves denouncing fellow gays and lesbians for militancy completely ignores history, including that of the Stonewall Riots that we celebrate each year. All of us carry suppressed rage over a life-

time of unjustified oppression. ACT UP may not condone every action of every individual in our movement, but we understand why someone might feel it necessary to hit back at those who have oppressed us for so long.

And that is what happened on July 23. That is exactly what such a "vulgar" and "disgusting" sign was intended to do. Its main target was the tourists who line the streets of the town. It demanded that they confront the language and anger so often used against gay men and lesbians; that for once, they make the accommodation, not us.

Can a single sign or a single group in a march have the power to upset so completely relations between the gay and straight communities in Provincetown? We find it hard to believe this is the case.

This being the 20th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots (the origin of gay pride across America), it was more than appropriate to include elements

did not create homophobia. [The business guild] act[s] like we created these problems, but all we did was expose them."

But Philippe D'Auteuil, president of the Provincetown Business Guild, had a different perspective. "We have no issue with ACT UP: we have an issue with signs that were carried," he told *OutWeek*, in a conversation that was not meant to characterize the position of the Guild. D'Auteuil, who has AIDS, added, "For AIDS activists to talk about legalizing butt-fucking and not use the word condom in the same line really upset me."

Speaking for the Guild, he continued, "Our main concern is dollars, and we would never deny that. The fire dept puts out fires. The Business Guild promotes tourism. But we're very aware of gay issues. We're all for human rights. We've all done our activism. That is not the place of the guild." D'Auteuil said that Guild bylaws prohibit the endorsement of any political statement.

of our community that want more than just a celebration. The events of July 23 provide a sobering reminder of how far we have to go in achieving real equality and civil rights for lesbians and gay men across the land.

On this anniversary, an increasingly militant and political sentiment was visible in every gay and lesbian pride march in the country. To expect this militancy to be tempered in Provincetown because some in the local gay community are interested solely in profit shows just how far out of touch those people are with the fight for gay rights today.

To say that the fight is not in Provincetown but "out there" ignores the movement as a whole and whitewashes the overt and covert homophobia that exists in this town today. If the local lesbian and gay community actually feels they have attained real acceptance, rather than just tolerance or financial convenience, they are sadly deluding themselves.

It seems, in fact, what we are being told is this: when it comes to your dollars, you are more than welcome, but when it comes to your poli-

### Contrast With Past Years

Provincetown's first parade was held only two years ago, when participants silently walked along Commercial Street at dusk, carrying candles. Local papers estimated that this year's march was twice the size of last year's with nearly 1,000 people participating.

Adding to the contrast, this year's march was led by a contingent of twenty dykes on bikes, The Moving Violations, from Boston. Following them was the grand marshall, Rolleren, who led the parade wearing her signature wedding dress, granny glasses, and roller skates, and carrying her magic wand.

In an interview with *Next*, a gay and lesbian publication based in Provincetown, one local resident had a very different take on the whole situation. Vera Whistman, a sociologist, said she thought it was hypocritical to react so strongly to the sign. "My own opinions about the sign aside," she told *Next*, "those same words can be seen everyday in Provincetown . . .

tics, stay out.

Sorry, folks. You can't have it both ways.

As for the official reaction to the march, we strongly protest all references to threats of violence, intolerance and censorship. Chief of Police James Meads must take responsibility for his reactionary and potentially threatening statements to the Selectmen, the Provincetown Business Guild, the press and especially to members of ACT UP Provincetown.

Let the chief of police—and everyone else who prefers only silent, respectful candlelight vigils—know one fact: We will not be silent, now or at any time in the future. Activism is a legitimate expression of any struggle for civil rights. Attempts to suppress it only strengthen the cause.

ACT UP Provincetown's objective is AIDS activism. Like other ACT UP chapters worldwide, we see this struggle as intertwined with the fight for gay civil rights. We will continue to pursue this agenda vigorously in Provincetown until the need has ended. ▼

—ACT UP Provincetown

and it's hard for me to believe there's anyone here unaware of that."

Whistman was referring to Shop Therapy, a novelty store and head shop on Commercial Street that sells t-shirts and buttons with sexual, scatological, and generally vulgar expressions and slogans.

While all of the local straight papers carried in-depth stories about the march, and the sign, with headlines like "Vulgar sign angers townspeople" (*The Provincetown Advocate*), none explicitly reported what the sign in question actually said.

And while a reticent Walter Armstrong said that he felt somewhat responsible for the hostility

being expressed against deRenzo and Kendricks, he said that he did not regret his decision to carry the sign through Provincetown's streets.

"Gays and lesbians are outlawed in 25 states, and I wanted to draw attention to the sodomy laws, but the word sodomy is the language of our oppressors," Armstrong said. "And I wanted to confront people with their own homophobia. It's very honest to use those words, and not just gays and lesbians use them. One of the basic principles of coming out is taking our fantasy lives out of the private realm and making them public." ▼

—filed from New York



HAM SANDWICH?

Rolleren nestles lesbian bikers in P-Town.

Photo: Steve Crouch / Roberta Raeburn

# *Les/Gay Advocates Strike Back at Military Victories in Discrimination Cases*

by Catherine Saalfeld

In two separate cases last month, advocates for lesbians and gay men in the military prevailed in court when they challenged the military's long-standing policy of dismissing men and women who are, or are suspected of being, gay or lesbian. The Marine Corps Board of Review reversed its own previous recommendation to discharge Marine Corps Captain Judy

Meade, who was charged with associating with "known lesbians." And Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund won an initial battle in its suit against the Naval Academy regarding the forced resignation of gay midshipman Joseph Steffan.

The Gay and Lesbian Military Freedom Project reported that the Marine Corps Board reinstated Captain Judy Meade on July 6 because

"the evidence against her was insufficient to justify an involuntary separation from the Marine Corps." Meade, who was stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, was charged with "conduct unbecoming an officer," having a "longterm personal relationship with a known lesbian," and on one occasion sleeping "in the same bed with a known lesbian."

Sue Hyde of the National Gay



## NEWS FOCUS

and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) characterized Meade's case as "another example of the Naval Investigative Service's (NIS) obsession with homosexuality."

Meade was court-martialed after a grueling, year-long investigation which involved many women at the Parris Island, South Carolina Marine base. The NIS led investigations into the lives of several women based on their alleged lesbian activities. At a meeting in April of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Service (DACOWITS), four of the women, including Meade, testified that the investigations had constituted sexual harassment, and called for their abolition. DACOWITS is a group of civilian men and women appointed by the secretary of defense to advise him on issues relating to women in the military.

DACOWITS recommended that the Department of Defense "recognize lesbian baiting as a form of sexual harassment and include material to that effect in its training programs."

Meade, who is not a lesbian, was

### NAVAL OBSESSION

*Marine Corps Captain Judy Meade*

Photo: Patsy Lynch

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# Walking the Gay Gangplank

ALAMEDA, CA—A U.S. Coast Guard review panel recommended the honorable discharge of Petty Officer Ricardo Huertas here July 19 because of his self-proclaimed homosexuality. Although the review board recommended that the Coast Guard re-examine its discharge policies concerned with sexual orientation, the board said it could not defy existing policy.

Huertas voluntarily told his superior officers in January that he was gay. At the time he was stationed aboard the Coast Guard cutter Rush. "It was getting more difficult for me to serve with 130 men," Huertas told the review board. "All they talked about was sex and eventually the words 'fag' and 'queer' would surface, and I found it increasingly offensive."

Since January he has been transferred from ship duty to the Coast Guard base here. The recommended discharge would come under what Coast Guard regulations refer to as a "Class Three Homosexual" which applies to anyone who "exhibits, professes or admits to homosexual tendencies" even though there is no evidence of any homosexual acts while on duty.

Huertas told the review panel that he has not had sex with men during the almost four years he's been in the Coast Guard. "I am homosexual," Huertas said. "I am not a practicing homosexual however."

Ten former shipmates and co-workers testified in Huertas' behalf at the board hearing, including several who gave telephone testimony from ships on the East Coast.

Huertas told the three-member panel of officers that he wanted to complete his service in the Coast Guard and go on to medical school to become an Army physician.

The review board recommendation will now go to Coast Guard commandant Admiral Paul Yost Jr. for his decision.

—Keith Clark

reinstated, in an NIS decision which appeared to acknowledge that it had overstepped the boundaries of discrimination. "Withchhunts like this produce a chilling effect on female friendship," said Sandra Lowe, the Lambda staff attorney who worked on the case. "This particular case ended favorably, but the psychological terrorism against gays in the military, particularly lesbians, continues."

NGLTF's Hyde cited two reasons for the NIS' decision. "The NIS bungled their initial investigation," according to Hyde. In fact, an NIS agent lied in the original report stating that Meade had been identified as a lesbian by another woman at Parris Island. That woman had actually said the opposite.

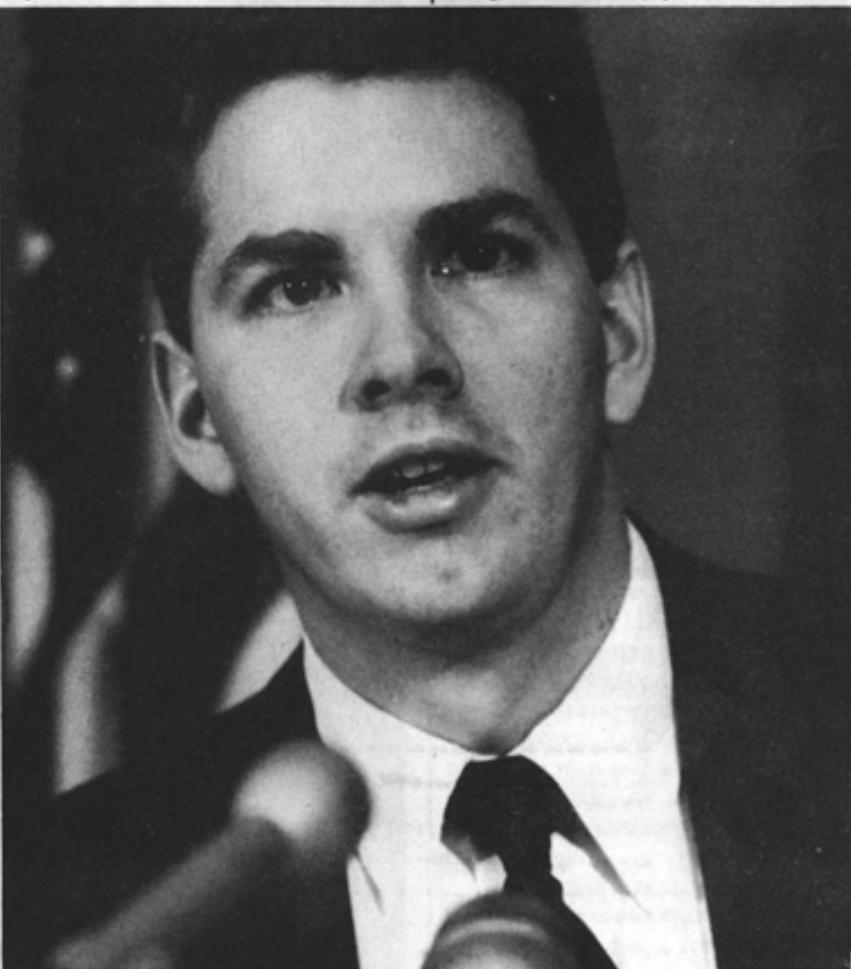
The unusual amount of media coverage of the event also embarrassed the Marines, according to Hyde. "The lesson here is, never shut

up," she told *OutWeek*.

## "It's Not Over Yet"

*OutWeek* contacted Meade shortly after her recent transfer to a Marine Corps base in Quantico, Virginia. The base is coincidentally the sight of the Marine Corps brig where three women from the Parris Island base were recently incarcerated, basically for being lesbians. The three served jail sentences following their convictions for violations of military justice statutes prohibiting certain sexual acts. Meade's transfer is seen by many as a direct result of her recent court case.

"I still have to keep fighting," Meade said. "It's not over yet." According to *OutWeek* sources, the personnel records which followed her to her new base are far from complementary, and may prevent future promotions. In what has already become a military appeal, Meade says she wants "the bad things taken off my performance eval-



OUT OF THE CLOSET AND INTO THE COURTS  
Midshipman Joseph Steffan

Photo: Jim Marks

ulations and records."

Although she says she is completely exhausted from the continuous harassment, she expressed appreciation for the involvement of lawyers and political activists in her case. "If it wasn't for people like Lambda, nobody would have cared. I would have been swept under the rug."

She said she likes her job and intends to stay in the Marines, but looks towards the future less than optimistically. "If they continue to pressure me, I want my severance pay. I've served 13 years, and they at least owe me that. They won't get me out without a fight," she told *OutWeek*.

#### "Voluntary" Resignation

In the case of Joseph Steffan, a midshipman held in high esteem by his peers and his teachers, the heart of the military's policy on homosexuality is being challenged in court. Represented by Lambda, Steffan is suing the U.S. Naval Academy for forcing him to resign because he is gay, two months before his graduation from the Academy.

The Navy responded by filing a motion to dismiss on the grounds that Steffan's resignation was voluntary. In fact, Steffan had been told to choose between voluntary resignation and a dishonorable discharge, after his superiors discovered that he is gay.

Historically, the courts have deferred to the military, and refused to hear such cases. But in Steffan's case, Judge Oliver Gasch of the Federal District Court in Washington, D.C. has declared the case viable. This preliminary achievement is already being viewed as a victory by Steffan's lawyers, because it removes the appeals process from the military's jurisdiction. "The smoke screen of 'voluntary' resignation precludes judicial review of the constitutionality of the regulations," said Lambda's Lowe. "It is a victory for Joe Steffan that the court has declared its intention to examine the constitutional issues at stake in the case."

Steffan could not be reached for comment. His lawyer said that because his case is still viable, he is not making any statements to the press.

#### Community Challenges

The Gay and Lesbian Military Free-

dom Project has been instrumental in the success of these cases. Created in November, 1988, it is a collaboration of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the National Lawyers Guild Military Law Task Force, the American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, Citizen Soldier, The Women's Equity Action League, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, and others.

The Military Freedom Project is working to end discrimination and harassment on the basis of sexual orientation and "perceived sexual orientation" in the U.S. Armed Forces, through various policy and statutory changes. These include the repeal of the policy which states that "homosexuality is incompatible with military service," which remains in place despite a recent Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision to reinstate openly gay Sergeant Perry Watkins as a member in good standing in the Army. Watkins had been removed from duty after years of service, despite having been open about his sexuality from the time he entered the military. ▼

## CORRECTIONS

In *OutWeek* No. 6 (July 31, 1989) an unfortunate production error affected Karl Sohnlein's film commentary titled, "Lost in La-La Land," a review of Gregg Araki's *The Long Weekend*. We regret any distortion and misunderstandings.

In *OutWeek* No. 7 (August 7, 1989), in a features story titled "New York Newsday's Same Sex Love Affair," (as well as in that issue's editorial), it was stated that *The New York Times* has no full-time AIDS reporter. The *Times* does, in fact, have Bruce Lambert, who covers the municipal AIDS situation on a full-time basis.

An analysis of Spike Lee's "Do The Right Thing," written by Sarah Schulman, inadvertently appeared (*OutWeek* No. 7, August 7, 1989) a week before it was to run in *Gay Community News*. ▼

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# Gays Caucus at Global Conference

## America's New Alliance Party Banned From Vienna Parley

by Rex Wockner

VIENNA—As the 11th World Conference of the International Lesbian and Gay Association came to a close July 22, organizers proclaimed the week-

But they said a few statistics demanded particular notice.

It was the largest ILGA conference ever—260 participants. Delegates from 33 countries—more than ever before—attended the conference. Activists from some of the world's poorest gay/lesbian rights groups came from five Latin American nations [see story]. And five East Block European nations were represented by a total of 20 activists.

Also of note was the participation of 21 activists from the U.S. Although Americans have overlooked ILGA in the past, several observers predicted that the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, the Human Rights Campaign Fund and similar groups will finally take the plunge at next year's conference in Stockholm.

### Notable Decisions

Among the notable decisions of conference plenary sessions was the sending of a telegram to Nicaraguan president Daniel Ortega on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution.

"The brave people of Nicaragua and the Sandinista government have undertaken great sacrifice and shown tremendous bravery in fighting for basic human rights for all their people," the conference said. "We hope that these rights will be fully extended to lesbian and gay citizens."

In another action, conferees unanimously rejected the membership application of the U.S.-based New Alliance Party. While the NAP purports to be militantly pro-gay, Americans in Vienna charged that NAP is really a political cult which has ties to the right-wing and which is "mining" the gay and lesbian community for money.

New official ILGA protests were undertaken to combat sodomy laws in the Australian states of Queensland and Tasmania. Other protests will target human rights abuses and harassment of gays in Argentina [see separate story] and the Canary Islands.

The embassies and governments of Bulgaria, Rumania and Czechoslovakia were also put on the ILGA action list. Member groups intend to bombard officials of the three countries with inquiries about HIV antibody testing and about the social status of gays and lesbians.

Activists from Barcelona, Spain's Catalunya Gay Liberation Front [FAGC] drafted and saw passed a "Charter of Rights for the Expression of Homosexual Practice." Irish participants, meanwhile, received a pledge of international support in their battle to force Ireland to honor a recent European Court for Human Rights decision overturning the country's sodomy law.

England's Lisa Power and West Germany's Jean-Claude Letist were re-elected ILGA secretaries general while Sweden's David Murphy will take over as information secretary. Guadalajara, Mexico was chosen to host the 1991 conference; the 1992 gathering will be in Brussels, Belgium. A European regional conference is scheduled for late December in Athens, Greece, and an Asian regional conference will be held in August 1990 in Bangkok, Thailand. ▼



**WE ARE THE WORLD**  
*ILGA co-secretary general Lisa Powers*

long gathering successful beyond their highest expectations. Bouquets and potted plants were given to almost everyone, and the thank you's delayed lunch by an hour.

The reasons for the success were many, according to ILGA officers and Homosexual Initiative [HOSI] Vienna, which organized this year's gathering.

Photo: Rex Wockner

# Latin American Groups: Many Ideas, No Cash

by Rex Wockner

VIENNA—Latin American activists attending the international Lesbian and Gay Association 11th World Conference July 17-22 all told an identical story: They have hundreds of ideas for bringing gay liberation to their countries, but no money for only the smallest of projects.

Gay and lesbian groups came to Vienna from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Peru. At the first Latin American workshop, they detailed the important undertakings that have been put on hold: newsletters, newspapers, hotlines, AIDS services, office space—even telephone calls and stamps to stay in touch with each other.

Jorge Romero Mendoza, from Guadalajara, Mexico's Homosexual Pride Liberation Group (GOHL), said his organization has yet to recover from a bomb which destroyed the facade of the GOHL community center last March. The bomb was most likely planted by homophobes who believe gays brought AIDS to Mexico, Romero said. Since the explosion, GOHL has been unable to pay its rent or phone bill, and the group's disco has closed.

Still, Romero said GOHL members are hopeful and are moving forward with plans to host ILGA's 1991 conference. "I think we can do it," he said. "The governor of the province promised his help, as well as the mayor."

Mexico City was represented by Carlos Hernandez of the group *Calamo*, which provides legal, psychological, cultural and medical sup-



**LESBIANAS UNIDAS JAMAS SERAN VENCIDAS**  
*ILGA delegates from Peru's Homosexual Liberation  
Pride Movement*

Photo: Rex Wockner

port to the gay male population of the world's largest city.

*Calamo*, too, is broke, and has suspended plans to open "an alternative space," publish a magazine and add a "human rights defense wing" to the organization, according to Hernandez.

*Colectivo Sol* works on AIDS issues in Mexico City and was represented at the conference by Raphael Manrique-Soto.

"What we're doing now," Manrique-Soto said, "is putting emphasis in rescuing the positive side of sex for gay men, because we think the reaction against AIDS has replaced the whole idea of feeling guilty about sex. AIDS has created a climate where homosexuality is discussed in the

*continued on page 72*

## Argentina's Anti-Gay Crackdown

VIENNA—Harassment of gay men and lesbians in the South American nation of Argentina has worsened to such an extent in recent months that the 260 delegates to July's International Lesbian and Gay Association 11th World Conference in Vienna staged a colorful, noisy and multi-lingual demonstration outside the Argentine embassy in downtown Vienna.

According to activists with the *Comunidad Homosexual Argentina* (CHA), police now routinely back paddy wagons up to the front doors of gay bars and discos and haul away the patrons—holding them for up to 72 hours.

Gay men face additional harassment in the streets, where authorities charge that they are "publicly soliciting for the purpose of sex."

"All it takes," said CHA's Emmanuel Valido, "is to be standing on the corner with your hands in your pockets. The police say you were playing with yourself through your pocket and inviting sex. Or, if you scratch your ear, they say it was a signal to another man."

The Vienna protest began on a small side street one-half block from the central plaza. Activists carried signs in their own languages denouncing the Argentine laws used to harass gays, and chanted pro-gay slogans in English, Spanish and German.

"Gays y lesbianas, unidos, jamas seran vencidos," ["Gays and lesbians united will never be defeated."] they yelled, altering slightly the slogan of Latin American people's revolutions. The protest then moved into Vienna's central square surrounding St. Stephen's Cathedral. Activists linked hands and formed a large circle some 90 feet in circumference. Passers-by were perplexed by the multi-lingual protest signs, but realized that gays were upset about something since "homosexual" looks the same in most all Roman-alphabet languages.

*continued on page 72*

# News

## House Kills Sex Survey

### Committee Bill Also Threatens AIDS Funds

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—The House Appropriations Committee killed all funding for a federal survey on the sexual practices of Americans, and eliminated all funds specifically earmarked for AIDS research in their final committee report, released July 25.

In particularly harsh words, the report stated that the survey "does not appear to be an appropriate use of

This kind of research is entirely appropriate for the federal government to support," he added.

Funds for a preliminary survey, which have been previously approved by Congress, have been undergoing review for several months by Dr. Louis W. Sullivan of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Sullivan agreed to review the survey in mid-spring. He took responsibility for the survey to divert attention from Office of Management and Budget Richard Darman, who had come under immense pressure from right-wing members of Congress Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) and Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-CA), vociferous opponents of the survey.

#### Broad Federal Support

The study, which was to have been conducted by the National Institute on Child Health and Human Development, has been praised by the General Accounting Office, the President's Commission on the HIV Epidemic and a host of other federal health

agencies as vital to determining the course of the AIDS epidemic, and precise measures to control it. While privately public health officials are reported as supporting the survey, political pressure from right wing advocates has led most of them to decline to be identified in their support.

Dannemeyer and Helms have maintained that the survey is a ruse by the "militant homosexual lobby" to falsely inflate the numbers of gay and lesbian Americans, since, they contend, non-gay Americans would steadfastly refuse to answer questions about their

sex lives. Other critics of the survey have suggested that the results of the survey would be the opposite, with most gay and lesbian people declining to answer the survey truthfully.

Pro-survey forces have now turned their attention to lobbying members of the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee to have them reinstate the funds for the survey, or at least eliminate the harsh report language, which they contend would have far-reaching impact on any government funded research involving sexuality.

#### AIDS Research Funding

For the first time, the bill's funding proposals for the National Institute of Health does not specifically set aside any funds for AIDS research. The bill instead allows all research funding to be decided upon by officials at the National Institutes for Health, who could opt to use the funds for research on diseases other than AIDS.

"The exact amount that is spent on AIDS will depend on how well grant proposals will do in the competitive process," stated Human Rights Campaign Fund lobbyist Steve Smith. "It has set up a strong competition for dollars that previously had been earmarked for AIDS."

NIH normally spends most of its budget through grants to researchers, mostly from universities. Grants are generally awarded after a peer review process, judged on their scientific merit. Earmarking certain dollars for AIDS research has guaranteed that a specific amount of those NIH dollars are spent on AIDS research. With the House's action, there would now be no such guarantee.

"The researchers who get the best grades in this process may be people who have submitted proposals to do AIDS research, and maybe not," added

*continued on page 74*



TAKING THE HEAT FROM HELMS Photo: Tom DiMaria  
*NGLTF Director Jeff Levi*

public funds," and added that the Public Health Service "is directed not to proceed with the study." The study was intended to gauge the patterns of AIDS transmissions on a national scale.

The vote surprised the survey's backers, and the language with which it was rebuked stunned even the most pessimistic of the study's proponents.

"I guess I cannot say that I am shocked that the money [for the survey] was taken out," stated National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Jeff Levi, "but the manner [in which] it was taken out was appalling.

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## House Democrat Threatens Dannemeyer with Censure

### Matter Pending Before House Ethics Committee

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—A Democratic House member has sent an official letter of complaint to a House ethics committee asking that Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-CA) be censured and that his written comments about homosexuality made in June be stricken from the *Congressional Record* on the grounds of obscenity.

In his July 26 letter to the House Committee on Standards and Official Conduct, Rep. Andrew Jacobs Jr. (D-IN) asked that certain comments writ-

to release the correspondence, stating that the matter is "currently pending before the ethics panel."

In accordance with House rules, the ethics panel will not release the text of the letter.

The comments in question were part of a lengthy diatribe offered by the California Republican, which described in detail what he called the "tactics of the homosexual movement in their desire to gain social legitimacy."

Citing the San Francisco AIDS Foundation safe sex brochure "Can We Talk?" as his source, Dannemeyer described "[Activities peculiar to homosexuality," including "rimming, or one man using his tongue to lick the rectum of another man; golden showers, having one man or men urinate on another man or men; fisting or handballing, which has one man insert his hand and/or part of his arm into another man's rectum; and using what are euphemistically called 'toys' such as one man using dildos, certain vegetables, or lightbulbs up another man's rectum."

In a three-page response to Jacobs' charges, Dannemeyer

pointed out that — using a 1921 precedent — Jacobs would have to offer what is called a "privileged motion" on the floor to instruct the ethics panel to conduct the inquiry.

Dannemeyer's office has now

seized upon the precedent to ask that the ethics charges be made on the House floor, instead of the closed committee, as is common practice, according to Paul Mero, a Dannemeyer spokesperson.

"Mr. Dannemeyer welcomes the opportunity to talk about the substantive issue of how homosexuality relates to public policy," stated Mero. "We'll do it any way [Jacobs] wants to do it, but we would prefer doing it on the House floor. I think the viewers of C-SPAN would enjoy that and benefit from that."

Openly gay Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA), a frequent critic of Dannemeyer, expressed concern with the inquiry. "I am reluctant myself to exercise censorship, but I do think it is worth noting that Mr. Dannemeyer is becoming increasingly bizarre," Frank said.

"People ought to understand not only the inappropriateness of what he put in the *Record* but the inaccuracies [included in it]," Frank added. "Fantasies about lightbulbs? It's bizarre. I think the few slender threads that connected Mr. Dannemeyer to reality appear to be fraying very rapidly. And we continue to be lucky he is our leading opponent, because he is not one of the 430 most respected members of the [435-member] House of Representatives."

"I've been around a couple of times and there are a couple of the things in this list that I'm not even aware of," added Human Rights Campaign Fund Communications Director Robert Bray. "This is a classic example of Dannemeyer out of control."

Other gay and lesbian activists, however, expressed mixed emotions about the inquiry, citing concerns with siding with an effort to declare description of certain sexual acts "obscene."

"I think that any time a member of the House can file a complaint against Dannemeyer, the [National Gay and Lesbian] Task Force would applaud that," added NGLTF lobbyist Peri Jude Radecic. "Still, it seems kind of strange in that House members are squabbling with each other over what is obscene and indecent." ▼



#### RIMMING, FISTING AND ... LIGHTBULBS?

Rep. Barney Frank

ten by Dannemeyer be reviewed, charging that they violated House rules against inserting obscene material in the *Record*.

Jacobs' office has confirmed the existence of the letter, but has refused

## Dannemeyer's Obsession

WASHINGTON—The U.S. House of Representatives on Aug. 2 successfully scuttled an effort by anti-gay Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-CA) to ban the federal funding of schools with gay and lesbian youth outreach programs by a 279-134 vote on a tactical maneuver.

Early in floor debate on the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 1990, Dannemeyer expressed his intention to introduce an amendment which would ban the use of any federal funds under the bill to "promote" homosexuality or "instruct" children about the "activities of homosexuals," only to have it defeated when it was not allowed to be introduced on the House floor.

Dannemeyer stated that his amendment would seek to address "an issue of growing importance in America, namely, whether or not our society will accept and equate homosexuality on a par with the heterosexual lifestyle."

Immediately, Dannemeyer went on to describe Project 10, a Los Angeles School Board program geared at counseling gay and lesbian youth, as seeking to "instruct children in that school district in the activities of homosexuality," denouncing the fact that the program indirectly receives federal funding through the local school board.

After Dannemeyer sought to discredit the program by quoting from "a homosexual newspaper" which called the program a "leading" institute addressing the issues of concern to gay and lesbian youth, openly gay Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) took a verbal jab at the California Republican.

Making reference to Dannemeyer's June 26 insertion of a lengthy and explicit discussion of the gay and lesbian political movement and what he described as "activities particular to homosexuals"—which included the insertion of "certain

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## *Another 'Midnight Caller' on AIDS*

### Activists Consulted on Script

by Keith Clark

SAN FRANCISCO—Lorimar Studios, producers of the NBC-TV series *Midnight Caller* that sparked nationwide protests last year over an episode concerning AIDS, have contacted three AIDS groups here for their input on a new script also involving the disease.

Last December AIDS groups around the country protested an episode of the series that portrayed a woman who wanted to kill a bisexual man who had infected her with the AIDS virus. Activists were angered

over the script, which they said would encourage violence against people with the disease.

The script for the upcoming episode concerns another woman infected by the same bisexual man. As initially outlined, the episode will follow the woman's struggle to cope with the advance of the disease. Sensitive to the possibility of another protest, Lorimar Studios officials contacted the three San Francisco organizations—ACT UP/SF, San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Mobilization Against AIDS—that led the protests

against the episode last year for their advice on the script.

*Midnight Caller* executive producer Bob Singer said, "We wanted their assistance because there's a lot of knowledge [about AIDS] they can pass on to us that we don't have."

At a mid-July meeting with representatives of the three AIDS groups and one of the series' writers, the AIDS activists urged that the story's character deal with the problems of getting an experimental drug for an AIDS-related illness. Such a script, activists said, would put the TV show in a position of advocating for easier access to treatment.

Paul Boneberg of Mobilization Against AIDS, one of the activists attending the meeting, said, "Treatment access is the most important issue in AIDS today. An episode dealing with that issue would be able to put it across to millions of people across the country in a way that only TV entertainment can."

continued on page 74

## *Domestic Partnership Challenge in Court*

by Keith Clark

SAN FRANCISCO—Cindy Bologna and Sydney Erskine had planned to be among the first lesbian and gay couples to register July 5 when the city's new domestic partners legislation was to have gone into effect. Their plans to turn their three-year relationship into a formal partnership, however, were thwarted when Phyllis Schlafly and other religious opponents of the law filed repeal petitions that suspended the ordinance until after a November vote. Not so easily thwarted, the two women have gone to court in an attempt to void the repeal petitions that stymied their registration plans.

Alleging flaws in the petitions themselves and possible fraud in how signatures were gathered, the two filed an appeal with the San Francisco Superior Court July 24, demanding the decertification of the repeal petitions, which would void the repeal move. It is unclear, however, what effect such a court order would have on the legislation itself.

In their court petition, Bologna and Erskine claim the

repeal petition forms claim that the domestic partners bill establishes "the registering of certain city benefits" for unmarried heterosexual or homosexual couples. Bologna and Erskine, however, note that the domestic partners bill itself does not provide for any city benefits, but merely for registration. A separate Board of Supervisors resolution at the time also established a city task force to develop plans for extending benefits to city employees. But neither bill actually establishes these benefits, which can only be initiated by the city's Health Service System Board, which oversees employee insurance programs.

### Chinese Version "Misleading"

In addition, Bologna and Erskine presented a translator's rendering into English of the Chinese-language description of the repeal petitions. According to that rendering, the Chinese-language petitions state the domestic partners bill's "main goal is to have the government recognize that homosexuals can enjoy all the rights and benefits of the family just like normal married couples." Bologna

continued on page 74



Photo: Tom McKitterick

**NEW YORK** — In response to an increased threat to federal funding of controversial and erotic art, members and supporters of the arts community staged a protest on Wednesday evening, August 2 in front of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The two-hour demonstration was arranged by Art Positive, an organization which fights homophobia and censorship of the arts. The protest included a makeshift rally in front of the museum, and was followed by a meeting to discuss further actions.

Demonstrators expressed outrage at an amendment proposed by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC), passed by the Senate on July 26, which seeks to prohibit the use of federal funds to support "obscene or indecent materials." The amendment came just two weeks after the House of Representatives cut the budget of the National Endowment for the Arts, which had supported controversial exhibits by Andres Serrano and the late gay photographer Robert Mapplethorpe.

Afterwards, demonstrators adjourned to the Dia Foundation for a planning meeting, where they found police waiting for them outside of the building, at 155 Mercer Street. Art Positive's Bill Dobbs said that the police tried to enter the meeting to find out who was in charge.

Photo: Desi Del Valle



— Mark Chesnut



NEW YORK — Over 500 hundred people gathered on Bleeker Street in the West Village on Wednesday evening, August 2nd to picket a store-front church where the New York chapter of Operation Rescue holds its regular meetings. Protesters, responding to a call by the Reproductive Rights Coalition, then marched up Sixth Avenue and Across Eighth Street to the Domino's Pizza on Third Avenue near Saint Marks Place. The giant pizza

chain is one of Operation Rescue's most generous contributors, according to protest organizers.

Five church members apparently followed the demonstrators east, and were permitted through the police barricades in front of the pizza shop in order to purchase dinner. Afterwards, they could be seen on the sidewalk in front of the store, munching pizza while simultaneously fondling their rosaries.

— Andrew Miller and T.L. Litt

Photo: T.L. Litt

## Koch Presents Gay-Bash Victims with 'Magical' Ties

by David Kirby

NEW YORK — Two victims of the brutal, anti-gay attack July 22 in Carl Schurz Park attended a brief, publicized meeting with Mayor Edward Koch in his City Hall office, at which the mayor praised the two for their bravery and gave each an official New York City tie with "magical powers." Koch routinely meets with victims of any bias-related violence in the city.

"Even though the story once appeared in the papers, you find it far

more dramatic hearing it directly from the victim, and I think it has an impact on the public," Koch explained to the half-dozen reporters present.

On the warm Saturday night in question, Stuart Elliot, a 37-year-old reporter for *USA Today*, was sitting on a bench talking with Bruce Ellerin, when 11 teenage boys and one girl approached them and began calling them "faggots." When Ellerin responded with obscenities, the group attacked the two men, sending them both to the hospital.

"It was a terrifying experience and it all happened so quickly. They just beat the hell out of us. It was a very, very scary thing," said Elliot, who needed 18 stitches above one eye and on his nose. Ellerin, who was not at the City Hall meeting, sustained a fractured cheekbone.

Of the three or four dozen people who reportedly filled nearby park benches, only one person, Ron Meyer, a 48-year-old industrial researcher from the Upper East Side, came to the aid of Ellerin and Elliot.

Koch, while praising Meyer for his quick action, called the complacency of the other parkgoers "outrageous and shameful." Meyer was also beaten during the attack, and required hospitalization. Six of the alleged attackers have so far been arrested.

"If the anti-bias legislation in Albany had been passed already, the penalties would be much greater," said Koch, restating his support for the derailed bill which sought stiffer sanctions for those found guilty of hate crimes.

#### **"Magical Ties"**

Reaching behind his chair, the mayor then pulled out two slender, white boxes with blue ribbons, and presented them to the two men.

"These are ties that have magical powers," Koch announced, amid nervous chuckling from those present.



**TIE-ING ONE ON** Photo: Joan Vitale Strong  
**Mayor Edward Koch**

The ties bore the official seal of the City of New York. Telling Elliot and Meyer that the ties would protect them from colds and cancer, the mayor added, "If a mugger is in the neighborhood, just hold the tie up, and it's just like dealing with a vampire, it has the same impact. You just tell them you're under protection of the mayor."

Although Elleren, Elliot and Meyer have never discussed their own sexuality, the incident is being treated as a bias-related incident because of the anti-gay epithets shouted by the gang of teen-agers during the attack. ▼

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# Out of Our Hands

## Why Dykes Need to Take on the Insurance Industry

by Desma Holcomb

The AIDS epidemic has further exposed the hardships of illness without health insurance. As a result, gay men have been following closely the progress of proposals for domestic partner health benefits. But lesbians also have a special stake in this fight. And we'll need to take on the insurance industry to win it.

### Why Lesbians Lack Insurance

As women, lesbians are less likely to have health insurance than men (including gay men). Women in many predominantly-female jobs don't get health benefits. This includes many waitresses, garment workers, sales clerks, home health care workers, child care providers and office clericals. And more than 75 percent of women work in traditionally female job categories like these.

Part-time workers—90 percent of whom are female—are routinely excluded from coverage even in companies that provide health insurance for full-time staff. Lesbians who have gotten jobs with movement organizations or women-owned businesses often find that their employers "can't afford" health coverage for employees. And a lesbian who is lucky enough to have a job *and* insurance through that job may very well have a lover who does not.

Historically, lesbians have been more likely than gay men to settle into long-term relationships. They are also more likely to have responsibility for children, whether from divorce, adoption or alternative insemination. For many lesbians, insurance coverage for our lovers' children will be just as important as coverage for our lovers.

Finally, as women, lesbians earn

an average of one-third less than men. With low incomes and high health care costs, we literally cannot afford *not* to have insurance.

### Taking on the Insurance Industry

Unions and the lesbian and gay movement are challenging employers and politicians to provide domestic partner health benefits. But even when an employer or a city is willing, most insurance companies simply refuse to write policies that include domestic partners. This refusal derailed contract negotiations for insurance by District 65/UAW at the Museum of Modern Art in 1987, and has stalled implementation of a city council resolution on benefits in Seattle.

We should not be surprised. This is the industry that for decades made premiums for Blacks more expensive than those for whites. This is an industry that still charges women an average of \$100 more a month than it charges men for individual policies. And this is the industry that has been using every means possible, both legal and illegal, to keep people with AIDS, and gay men in general, off their policies.

Insurance companies have assumed that "domestic partners" are all gay men and that all gay men have AIDS. When they make these assumptions, they are making lesbians invisible. They are being homophobic because many straight couples will apply as domestic partners, and they are being AIDS-ignorant because not all gay men get AIDS and not all people with AIDS are gay.

But even before the AIDS epidemic, insurance companies resisted the concept of domestic partner coverage. "Adverse selection" is the tech-

nical excuse the industry has raised (and still raises) for not providing domestic partner coverage. What is "adverse selection"?

Since insurance companies operate for profit using the law of averages, they want to be sure that they don't get an above-average number of sick people on their policies. Any time "too many" sick individuals become eligible for an insurance policy, it throws off the average and is considered adverse selection.

Insurance companies assume that people marry for reasons other than getting spousal health benefits. As a result, spouses as a group will have an average amount of good health and illnesses. On the other hand, insurance companies assume that, given the chance, many people will designate a non-lover as a "domestic partner" because they have a roommate or friend who is ill and needs coverage. So they assume that domestic partners as a group will include an above-average number of sick people, many of whom are not really domestic partners at all. That's why they think domestic partner coverage would lead to adverse selection. The prejudices that lie behind these assumptions are that domestic partner relationships are not as legitimate as marriages, and that the kind of people who would openly claim to have a lover (straight, lesbian or gay) are likely to be liars.

Two solutions have been developing to the so-called problem of adverse selection. At the *Village Voice*, couples register as co-habiting "spousal equivalents" with an affidavit, and get covered one year later. So it's impossible to get quick coverage for a

sick friend, and word is likely to get out if you're not really lovers. During the seven years the policy has been in effect, there have been zero cases of fraud at the *Voice*.

In the city of Berkeley, California, and its Unified School District, which have had coverage for five years, couples swear out an affidavit that they are co-habiting and sharing the necessities of life. They are legally liable to

refund to the employer any benefits received if the relationship is a fraud. Under either system domestic partners have to put up with stricter rules than married couples, but the insurance company is protected from potential cheaters. Under either system, domestic partners as a group would tend to have the same amounts of good and bad health as spouses.

Since these time-tested solutions

to the problem of adverse selection exist, the continuing refusal by the insurance industry to cover domestic partners is primarily a problem of discrimination. Lesbians have a special stake in bringing that discrimination to an end.

Until we achieve the goal of national health insurance, domestic partnership is an interim measure worth struggling for.

## AIDS Treatment News ddI Overview and Importance

by John S. James

ddI emerged from the June Montreal AIDS conference with widespread professional consensus that it is the most important new AIDS antiviral at this time. The drug appears to be much less toxic than AZT, and the toxicities it does have are different—opening doors to more effective doses, as well as combination therapies.

Like AZT, ddI is not a cure, and will have to be used as a maintenance treatment. It can be taken less frequently than AZT, probably twice a day.

Although the drug is in the same general class as AZT, there does not appear to be cross resistance—meaning that strains of the virus which have become resistant to AZT are not automatically resistant to ddI. Therefore, ddI may be effective for people for whom AZT no longer works well. ddI may also be synergistic with AZT, meaning that the combination may work even better than would be expected by adding the efficacies of the two separate drugs together. But no one knows for sure, because as far as we know there have been no human tests of the combination.

Eventually AIDS virus strains will probably develop resistance to ddI, as with AZT. But the new drug should at least work for some time for people

who cannot use AZT, or for whom AZT is no longer effective. And laboratory tests have suggested that when different drugs attack the virus in different ways (as suggested here by lack of cross resistance), it may take much longer for the virus to develop resistance to the combination than to any of the drugs separately.

Some scientists also suspect that bone-marrow toxicity from prolonged use of AZT might make it more difficult for the immune system to recover, even if the virus causing the immune deficiency can be stopped. ddI may provide evidence of whether or not this theory is true, by allowing AZT to be compared with an antiviral which has no bone-marrow toxicity. It will be important to see whether T-helper cells (for example) recover fastest with ddI alone, AZT alone, or a combination of the two.

In short, ddI will be most important for those who cannot use AZT. But also it may open doors to a whole range of new treatment possibilities, making possible creative research which can advance HIV management for the benefit of everyone.

These potential benefits, however, may be slowed or blocked by the ineffectual system of clinical research now in power. For example, no matter how clearly ddI works, the drug will have

to go through a two-year ritual in which a statistically significant number of deaths and serious infections must accumulate in those in a control group not receiving the treatment. Trials to look directly at which patients do or do not improve while using the drug could be conducted much more rapidly, and would provide exactly the information patients and physicians want to know—but such trials would not be accepted for drug approval, because it is hard to measure patient improvement scientifically.

Since important antivirals will take years to go through the approval process, and patients cannot wait for reform of the current unproductive research system and the entrenched interests behind it, immediate discussion has focused on programs to make drugs available before full approval to those who need them most—after the drugs have passed safety tests and shown some evidence that they work. The basic fact shaping this discussion is the conflict between the interests of patients, who want to have more and better treatment options available, and the interest of institutions which, for differing reasons, want to restrict access.

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## Political Science

# Addl Directory

by Mark Harrington

Last year, the U.S. government held a baby auction. They were selling licenses to "Broder's babies"—drugs whose anti-HIV activity was discovered in the National Cancer Institute labs of Dr. Sam Broder. It was Broder who discovered the test-tube anti-HIV activity of AZT, ddC (dideoxycytidine) and ddI (dideoxyinosine). Although these drugs qualify as orphans under the U.S. Orphan Drug Act (which give the licensee tax breaks and a limited monopoly), there was no shortage of would-be sponsors. In the end, giant pharmaceuticals got the orphans: Hoffman-LaRoche got ddC and Bristol Myers (aided, no doubt, by an executive's role as a top Bush fundraiser) got ddI.

All these drugs (which are called nucleoside analogues) work in a similar manner. They attach to the DNA of cells that are dividing, and cause "premature chain termination." This means that the DNA breaks off before HIV can copy itself onto the cellular DNA, bringing new viral replication to a halt.

This doesn't affect cells that are already infected, where HIV has already copied itself onto host cell DNA, but only in newly infected cells. So nucleoside analogues aren't cures, but only treatments, for HIV infection.

Blood cells and nerve cells are very sensitive to nucleoside analogues. AZT suppresses the bone marrow where all blood cells originate. DdC causes peripheral neuropathy,



thy, or pain in the extremities (hands, feet, legs). DdI seems, so far, to be the least toxic of the nucleoside analogues. Some toxicity has been found—mainly buildup of uric acid (which causes gout but is easily treat-

### DdI is half as 'active' as AZT, but 10 times less toxic.

ed), some peripheral neuropathy at the higher doses tested, and inflammation of the pancreas. But all these

toxicities are far less dramatic and dangerous than AZT-linked toxicity.

DdI is half as "active" as AZT, but ten times less toxic. This means a larger effective dose can be taken. Phase I safety studies are continuing with subjects receiving up to 2000 mg (2 grams) a day. Some people in the Phase I study have experienced increases in T4-cells and decreases in a marker of viral activity called p24 antigen. Some have reported increased feelings of well-being as well.

Like AZT, ddI will be taken orally. It will be packaged in a sachet. People will tear open the package and pour the powder into a glass of water twice a day. The powder contains ddI and an antacid buffer. (DdI is acid-sensitive and would be degraded in the stomach if it were taken without an antacid). DdI has a longer half-life in the blood than AZT (10 hours vs. one hour) and so needs to be taken less often.

Right now, ddI's manufacturer, Bristol-Myers Co., is working with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID), which conducts Federal AIDS drug trials, with the Food & Drug Administration (FDA), which regulates drug trials in humans, and with ACT UP to design several ddI trials. The most important of these trials (all of which should begin in September) will compare ddI to AZT in people with low T4-cell counts who haven't been on AZT before. This trial will be carried out through NIAID's AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG).

system. The ACTG has been a notable failure in providing new AIDS therapies, despite half a billion dollars in funds over the last three years.

Other trials may be conducted through community-based research groups such as New York's Community Research Initiative (CRI). Because potential subjects already receive health care from CRI doctors, these trials may enroll subjects faster and get results quicker than the ACTG. CRI trials may compare different doses of ddl in people who are unable to take full-dose AZT because of its toxicity (such people are called AZT-intolerant).

There may be another trial of ddl in people who have been on AZT over a year, and in whom AZT may no longer be working. Some people will be randomly assigned to receive ddl, while others get AZT.

Finally, there may be another nationwide program for people who are unable to enroll in a controlled clinical trial of ddl, and who have no other therapeutic option. This has been called "Treatment IND" by FDA Commissioner Frank Young, "Parallel Track" by NIAID Director Anthony Fauci, and "Emergency or Compassionate Drug Program" by Bristol-Myers. Whatever its final name, for this program to succeed, it must provide access to ddl to people who need an alternative to AZT.

Previous efforts like FDA's Treatment INDs for trimetrexate or erythropoietin (EPO) have failed to distribute Treatment IND drugs to people who need them. But times have changed. In June and July, 1989, ACT UP representatives met with the scientists from Bristol-Myers who are designing the ddl trials. It was probably the first time in history that a drug company met with people living with a disease to plan together trials of a drug to treat that disease. If the pharmaceutical industry starts to work with people with AIDS, rather than being their antagonist, the crisis may be over sooner. ▼

August 14, 1989 OUTWEEK

## Provincetown Journal

### Home is Anywhere They Bash Your Pride

By Sunday evening, July 23, with ACT UP NYers on hand to supply chants, posters and volume, and with the evening's honorary guest, New York's own Fairy Goddess-sister, Rollerena, in full skating regalia as the parade's grand marshall, it seemed that Provincetown's lesbian and gay community, residents and visitors alike, was finally prepared to bid a proud, raucous farewell to the funereal candlelight processions which have replaced—not accompanied—gay pride marches here in the past few years.

by P-town summer resident Steve Crouch and a handful of others, had spent the previous week tirelessly planning for the event.

As the march surged onto Commercial Street, Provincetown's main thoroughfare, the predominantly straight onlookers (thousands, said the local press) were treated to poster-carrying queers who had taken to this unexpected infusion of rowdiness as naturally as they'd taken to the dance floor at the A-Bar Saturday night. While the swarm screamed



**LEGALIZE POT LUCKING?**  
*Provincetowners On Parade*

Photo: Steve Crouch / Roberta Raeburn

For the parade's diligent organizers, the sheer volume of people and voices, the combination of jubilation and rage in the face of an ever-present enemy, represented a small victory. Paul deRenzis and his lover Eric Kendrick, two young native New Yorkers who a year ago transferred to Provincetown, had assumed the roll of parade organizers after it became clear that few if any of their queer peers were interested in the responsibility. Inspired by a desire to illuminate the plethora of AIDS issues still unaddressed in the community, and to emphasize lesbian/gay pride and strength, the two men, accompanied

chants compiled the night before, some of us distributed flyers detailing the government's negligence in responding to the AIDS crisis and tossed into eager hands the party favor of the gay nineties, the condom. There could be no question on the part of the crowd as to why we were screaming our queer little guts out. For our rights. And for our lives.

As I looked at the stunned faces of tourist families and tourist queers I decided it was well worth the time spent leafletting on the beach, hammering out plans and posters in smoky living rooms. Fueled by the examples of self-sacrifice on the parts

of P-town's own *vox clamantis*, I decided it was high time I'd taken action on my duty as a young fag activist away from home: AIDS doesn't take a vacation (though P-town's treatment access system, which requires a trip to Boston for certain treatments, suggests that some in the medical community must think otherwise).

Nor does homophobia. (As ACT UP/NY's Walter Armstrong said upon returning to NYC, "Between the rent-a-cops and the internalized homophobia [in Provincetown], there is about an inch of freedom there." Examining the crescendo of negative sentiment preceding and following the march, Armstrong's words seem an understatement.)

Witness the rumors that'd been spread around town by our own brothers and sisters that those radical parade organizers had gone and invited "outside agitators" to disturb the peace. Witness the verbal assault on an ACT UP/NYer Sunday night by an irate lesbian who has "lived in this town for 30 years and never seen such filth," referring to his sign demanding that butt-fucking and clit licking be legalized in all fifty states. Okay, sister, the wording's a bit harsh perhaps, but is not a patriarchal heterosexist court's Hitleresque intrusion into our bedroom not infinitely more vulgar? Witness the homophobia of a gay bar-owner as Rollerena sought to inform its young clientele of the march. The owner of the Boatslip, which is the only place where queers can t-dance nightly (and the joint most drastically in need of political nourishment), refused Rolla and her escorts entrance, citing a club policy forbidding leaflet distribution. When challenged by the sword-tongued ACT UP boys of the political import of their gesture, the owner concocted a convenient club policy barring persons on roller skates from entering the establishment.

Considering these relatively tame examples of homophobia—fears, really, of those brands of queerness which disturb the peace—in Provincetown, it became increasingly clear to me why Paul and Eric and their com-

rades had abdicated their comfortable couches of quiet citizenry to scream for life and rights.

It was only a matter of time, however, before homophobia's tame growl turned violent. As he marched, Provincetown's Chris Alvarez was hit by a shot from a BB gun.

Reporting on the march, an inaccurate local press set the tone for an ensuing week of officially sanctioned queer-bashing. "The police reported no violence at the orderly march," ran the story. "However," it continued, Provincetown resident Chris Alvarez suffered a small injury to his chest from an unidentified [?] object he said was hurled [?] into the crowd." No violence, huh? Were the queers merely getting what they deserved?

In a town selectman's meeting on Tuesday night, it seemed most residents thought just that. If we activist "punks," as a lesbian business leader called us, were shocked by the vituperations of one of our sisters against us—all over a silly old sign?—none of us was ready for Tuesday night's bashing. Prefacing their remarks with such disclaimers as "We've lived here all our lives and have always been accepting," the townspeople—about 23 of them—listed maligning stereotypes of gay behavior as defense for their anger. When her turn came to add to the crowd's invectives, one parent shamelessly revealed that the scope of the vitriol transcended a sign (which enjoyed more attention than did the BB or AIDS). Implicitly sanctioning, as a result of "that sign," her three sons' homicidal rage against all gays, she said she had to "leash them up," to prevent them from "going out and beating you people up." When human beings are raised as dogs, it's a wonder they don't gnash the bones of those they're taught to hate.

By week's end some had taken Mom's cue. Kendrick and deRenzis, publicly dubbed sole riot-inciters on Thursday by a fellow organizer eager to clear his name, received their first threatening phone call on Friday.

Despite long-term plans to return to family in Brooklyn, deRenzis now says, "We have to stick around. We don't want them to run us out of town."

Fight on, lone sisters. Fight on. ▼

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# THE MORBID MILESTONE

## Business as Usual as the Numbers Swell to Six Figures

by Cliff O'Neill

The nation recently passed through a somber threshold. With little attention, the American population has witnessed the achievement of a morbid milestone.

On July 1, 1989 the 100,000th case of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome was reported to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). With an average of 189 AIDS cases reported to the CDC every day, AIDS has hit a new and grim landmark: six digits.

With eight years of mounting caseloads and gruesome predictions, many in the gay and lesbian community have become desensitized to the ever-rising numbers. Which often makes it difficult to understand, or even to accept them. So, what does 100,000 represent?

One hundred-thousand represents the entire population of Alexandria, VA; of Fullerton, CA; of Davenport IA. One hundred-thousand represents the total number of people employed by McDonnel Douglas, Exxon or Xerox. One hundred-thousand represents the entire number of dentists in America, all the active duty officers in the U.S. Army or the Air Force, or the total amount of pediatricians and general practitioners in the U.S. combined.

And of those 100,000, there have already been over 60,000 deaths, well over the total number of American deaths in either the Vietnam or Korean Wars.

Today, the figures represent not only the staggering numbers in cities like New York, San Francisco and Los

Angeles; they are 84 people in steel town Allentown, PA, 122 residents of the New West's Tulsa, OK, 76 in the breadbasket's Omaha NE, 105 lives in Old New England's Springfield MA and an overwhelming 1,564 souls in the Caribbean's San Juan, Puerto Rico.

"But the devastating meaning of this [100,000] number reaches far beyond the stark reality of lives lost and lives now at risk," states Jean McGuire, executive director of the AIDS Action Council. "The real news today is that what took eight years to happen so far will sadly be repeated within fifteen months when the next 100,000 cases are reported."

One of the first 100,000 is Mike Meridian. As executive director of the National Association of People with AIDS he has acted as advocate, as lobbyist, as media spokesperson and as AIDS advocate. But at a recently-staged press conference called by the coalition National Organizations Responding to AIDS (NORA), he was one thing above all else: the face of AIDS.

"The projection of human economic costs, the need for a bill such as the Americans with Disabilities Act [which would ban AIDS discrimination on a national level] and the urgency of reform needed is overwhelming," said Meridian. "The numbing statistics and proposals must not mask the real issue—men, women and children, rich and poor, white, Black and Hispanic, from all walks of life are living with HIV, and in too many cases dying from it."



CUTTING RED TAPE?

*Dr. Anthony Fauci, National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Disease*

Disabilities Act [which would ban AIDS discrimination on a national level] and the urgency of reform needed is overwhelming," said Meridian. "The numbing statistics and proposals must not mask the real issue—men, women and children, rich and poor, white, Black and Hispanic, from all walks of life are living with HIV, and in too many cases dying from it."

## Civil Rights

In recent months, the issue of AIDS has undergone a marked decline in newspaper coverage and has seemingly evaporated from national news broadcasts. While the numbers of cases have continued to mount, the American population has largely been brought to the conclusion that the advancements made in AIDS policy-making and research have been brought "under control." Columnists in the nation's leading daily newspapers have expressed confusion as to how the media can now cover AIDS issues. Callers into radio talk shows are echoing complaints buzzing within the medical community that there is now too much attention placed on AIDS.

Which speaks to what AIDS advocates are viewing as probably the biggest problem facing the ever-expanding epidemic: complacency. And that complacency makes addressing the vital issues of civil rights and health care in the epidemic all the more difficult.

Over eight years and 60,000 deaths into the epidemic, activists, scientists, physicians, health commissions and politicians have singled out the guarantee of civil rights as a vital step in bringing this national health problem under control. And while a handful of states, counties and cities have passed AIDS anti-discrimination measures, to date, in most parts of the U.S., people with AIDS and HIV infection are only free from discrimination in employment within the federal government and in housing.

"Every single report or commission that has addressed the AIDS epidemic has called for anti-discrimination protection as a means of helping to stop the spread of AIDS," says American Civil Liberties Union AIDS lobbyist Chai Feldblum. "Public officials have consistently and vigorously stated that, in order to encourage voluntary HIV antibody testing, individuals must feel that they may undergo such testing without fear of subsequent discrimination."

While anti-discrimination protections were the centerpiece of the June 1988 report of the Presidential Commission on the HIV Epidemic, then-President Ronald Reagan brushed aside the proposal and left the issue to be addressed by incoming President George Bush and the U.S. Congress.

And in November 1988, when Congress sat poised to pass the nation's first comprehensive AIDS bill including such anti-discrimination measures, a last-minute delaying tactic by arch-conservative Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) effectively extracted the anti-discrimination measures, leaving them to be dealt with by the 101st Congress.

Currently all hopes are being pinned on the comprehensive Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) which would—after 25 years—extend to all people with disabilities the anti-discrimination protections of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

## 'DEVASTATING MEANING'

*Jean McGuire, executive director of AIDS Action Council*

Photo: Doug Hinckle / Washington Blade

But while President Bush even endorsed the bill during his 1988 election campaign, it is currently undergoing strict review by the White House and leading Senate Republicans on several details, including employment anti-discrimination provisions pertaining to small businesses.

[Mark-up of the ADA by the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee is tentatively scheduled for August 2. The U.S. House has already begun holding hearings on the bill.]

## The Health Care Crisis

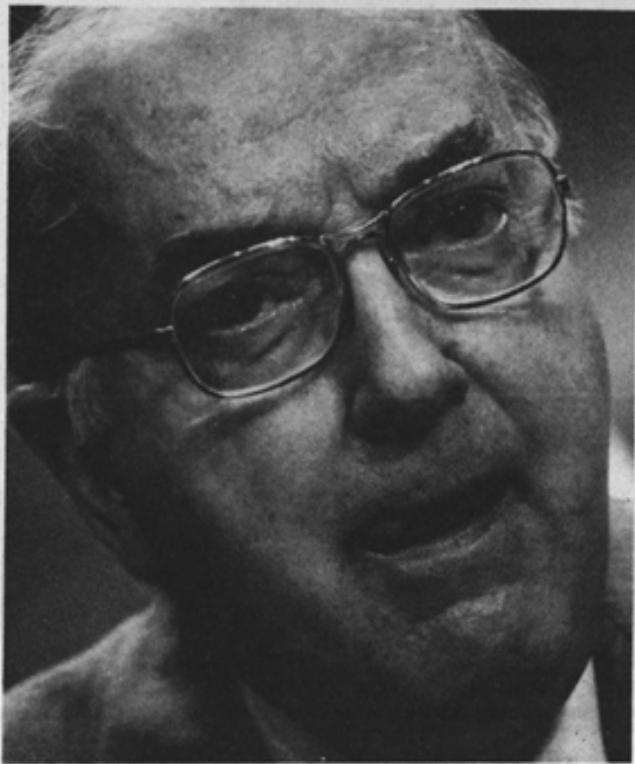
In no other area have the failures of the nation's health care delivery system been displayed than in the country's addressing the myriad of such problems around the AIDS crisis. And nowhere else in the portrait of AIDS in the final months of the 1980s does the picture offer a more bleak outlook.

Mayors, hospitals, nurses' and doctors' groups and researchers have joined AIDS advocates in pointing out the seemingly insurmountable problems of nursing shortages, patient dumping, homeless people with AIDS and staggering health care costs facing the nation. Over and over again panels and advocacy groups have predicted that AIDS may soon completely bankrupt the nation's health care system. Experts are predicting that costs of AIDS care may result in increased hospital charges up to 20 percent a year for the next two years for all services. One New York City hospital alone recently reported 1,700 AIDS patients on its daily census.

One doesn't have to look far to see the effects that "hospital grid-lock" is having on care for the entire range of the nation's ills.

"Where will the second 100,000 go for care?" asks Donna Richardson of the American Nurses Association. "With the Public Health Service estimating 1 to 1.5 million infected Americans, hospitals and communities which believe they have been untouched will share the cost of care, even if they have not identified any HIV infected indi-





## LIKING THE GAY LOBBY

**Senator Jesse Helms (R-North Carolina)**

Photo: Jim Marks

viduals as of yet... It has been said that homelessness in New York is an AIDS Calcutta. The second 100,000 could be as devastating in its death toll and citizens' morale as the Civil War was to this nation."

Neither are easy solutions forthcoming. While federal AIDS program director Dr. Anthony Fauci has publicly stated that the National Institutes of Health—a medical research institution—will seek to do its part in addressing the nationwide problem, and Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA) has stated he will add five new health care financing proposals to his already-pending measures addressing some of the health care delivery problems head-on, in an age of city, state and federal budget constraints, things are expected to get infinitely worse before they get any better.

Consider the following statistics:

- With cost estimates averaging \$60,000 per AIDS patient, already the 100,000 American AIDS cases to date have compromised much of the nation's health care system. The next 100,000 are expected in 15 months.

- Of the 100,000 cases now reported, 2,000 of those have been infants, children and teenagers. Three thousand infants will be born with AIDS annually, beginning this year.

- HIV infection rates are climbing among women faster than in any other population.

- Since AIDS disproportionately strikes those below 40, the disease already ranks as the seventh leading cause of "Years of Potential Life Lost"—a measure devised by statisticians. By 1991 it is expected to be ranked third. By 1995 it may possibly be first.

- This year, the economic impact of AIDS is estimated

at \$32 billion. By 1991, estimates put that number at close to \$141 billion.

Meanwhile, Congress is considering a fiscal 1990 AIDS budget of \$1.6 billion, \$300 million short of what the U.S. Health and Human Services Department predicted would be needed for 1990.

## The Future

The chief challenges in facing the morbid predictions appear to be twofold: money and complacency.

And with a growing complacency gripping the public consciousness and a heightened sense of competition between AIDS activists and those pushing for research and attention for diseases other than AIDS, the money problems are expected to worsen.

Case in point: the federal AIDS budget. In approving the Labor, Health and Human Services Budget for Fiscal Year 1990 in late July, the U.S. House Appropriations Committee for the first time left AIDS research funding to the competitive process of the National Institutes for Health. While AIDS lobbyists are promising to push the Senate to earmark funding for AIDS research, they are clearly stating that the creeping competition between researchers—a competition AIDS activists want no part of—is beginning to make its effects felt.

"There should be funding for AIDS research and cancer research," stated outgoing National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Jeff Levi. "It shouldn't be cancer research at the expense of AIDS research."

Government complacency is perhaps taking an even greater toll on people of color who are being hit disproportionately by AIDS. Just as homophobia has been responsible for government's scandalous neglect of people with AIDS, so too has racism and a basic lack of caring for the poor and disenfranchised caused a lack of even the most basic of prevention and epidemiology studies intended to slow the spread of AIDS among those populations.

But if there is a bright spot in the portrait of AIDS 100,000 cases into the epidemic it is in the arena of AIDS research efforts, where, thanks largely to the work of AIDS activists, unprecedented gains have been made.

Now four drugs are on the market to treat AIDS and AIDS-related disorders; one other is available through the Food and Drug Administration's "Treatment IND [Investigational New Drug]" program. By September, ddl, a new and promising anti-HIV drug is expected to begin broad human trials, both in strictly controlled university studies and in another far-reaching program called a "parallel track" system, intended to help patients not qualifying for university studies to receive the drug free of charge.

But to continue to make advances, all agree: the complacency around the epidemic must be shattered.

"Our coalition effort here today marking this tragic event is evidence of a stronger, more powerful, more diverse AIDS advocacy community," stated Meridian. "We are hopeful that our works and proposals will be heard and acted upon."

"For me and 99,999 others, it is a matter of life and death." ▼



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# 100,000



Photo: T.L. Litt

In March 1983 I wrote an essay, "1,112 and Counting." And in October of 1983 I wrote one, "2,339 and Counting."

What am I thinking now that 100,000 has been reached? Pretty much the same things I railed against when I wrote those first two diatribes. I hesitate to list them, lest I be known as such a one-note wailer. But the same situations, the same deficiencies, the same denials exist.

Too many of us are still dying and still too little is being done by our governments, by our elected officials and by us.

Of course, there is no way, when a tragedy like AIDS gets out of hand—and it is out of control—wherein enough can ever be done.

But as I witness how few on-the-line fighters there are in the gay and lesbian population, as well as in the Black, Latino and IV-drug user populations, I try hard to fight against despair. I try hard to look at the more positive aspects. At last we have ACT UP, a growing nationwide contingent of effective scrappers. At last we have, in John James' *AIDS Treatment News*, a superb means of networking regular and reliable information on

# And Counting...

the latest treatments. At last we have, in Martin Delaney, a gay spokesperson who has been able to get previously inaccessible government officials like the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Dr. Frank Young and the National Institutes of Health's Dr. Anthony Fauci to talk with us on a regular basis. These are no small accomplishments, though they come ten years into an epidemic that still has the power to kill off many, many more of us.

We still live in a city run by a Mayor and a state by a Governor and a country by a President all of whom, along with just about every other elected official, consider those suffering from, or susceptible to, AIDS disposable. We still have no national gay and lesbian organization with any power. We still have a stingy number of lobbyists in Washington. We still have no national leaders. We still have a lesbian and gay population that lives mostly in the closet. We still have huge AIDS organizations that spend most of their energies helping people to die rather than fighting for us to live.

It is hard to feel good about very much, even though, I suppose, it's possible to be grateful that it is "100,000 and Counting" and not "1,000,000 and Counting." I suppose, as well, that there are now many gay men and lesbians who think the worst is over, because they aren't HIV positive, or because at last we're hearing about new treatments that appear most promising. For those of us who are HIV positive, or in various more active stages of AIDS, we certainly must try to wring hope from whatever we can, and try not to feel desolately

abandoned by those who selfishly think only of their lucky escape.

Ten years into an epidemic and so few have had so little effect in changing the mind-set of so many. And yet, I do think some sort of corner has been turned; it's certainly better to get sick today than a few years ago. It's certainly possible that many of us are going to live through this after all. That's a wonderful gift.

But we're not going to live through it without somehow finding the energy within our many lesbian and gay communities—and without building coalitions with the other

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## The same situations, the same deficiencies, the same denials exist.

AIDS-affected communities—to fuel this burst to the finish line. And the finish line, though it appears to be coming closer each day, may yet turn out to be a mirage. I worry that we're so tired we may not find this energy, and die because of it. This new chapter of the epidemic, I think, can be categorized as one in which the delays we must attack are not so much scientific ones as bureaucratic ones. Drug companies and researchers are at last uniting with us against the hateful Food and Drug Administration (FDA), a system of civil servants that thrives on red tape and punishes us for criticizing them as we beg for the

mercy of swifter action.

This new chapter requires more than ever just what we have lacked from the beginning: coordinated action, particularly in Washington. More than ever we need power displayed consistently and continuously and constantly in that city of power. We need a Human Rights Campaign Fund, a National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, an AIDS Action Council, a National AIDS Network, a Gay Men's Health Crisis, that are stronger than they have ever showed us they can be. We need them to network and talk to each other, which they don't do. We need them to choose the most powerful leaders available, which they don't do. We need their boards of directors to be courageous and gutsy, which they aren't. We need communities across this nation to finance the hiring of hundreds of lobbyists in Washington, which we still lack. Oh, I have said all of this so many times and for so long.

But I have no choice but to say all of it again. So, for those of you who have been reading my words over these past long years, now that we have reached that awful and awe-full number of 100,000, there is nothing new I can bring to solemnize its arrival. I am still the one-note wailer. I'm grateful I'm still able to be here screaming, and I'm grateful I'm joined by many more screamers than were around when I started my caterwauling another lifetime ago. But I sure wish, as I've prayed from the beginning, everybody else was screaming too.

We're heading for the last roundup, boys and girls. How many men and women are willing to stand up and be counted, at last? ▼

# *Scenes from a Lesbian Love Life*

*by Maria Maggenti*



Photo: T.L. Litt

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**I am trying to be a  
good lover. I am  
trying not to give in  
to the hatred closing  
in on us.**

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**m**

y first lover and I are sitting on a blanket on the floor of our dilapidated, almost empty and all-our-own-apartment. There is a bottle of wine between us, an ashtray full of cigarette butts, candles because we haven't any lightbulbs yet. We have been passionately in love for almost eight months—unable to breathe without the soft flesh of the other nearby, living in a state of near delirium, a constant tender fever. I imagine that this sudden clarity of mind and feeling that has broken open before me is something unique, brilliant and new on the historical landscape of human emotion. I am exultant, mad, swollen with joy. I am the only one in the world who has ever felt like this.

Perhaps it is the wine. Or the flickering candles making shadows on the walls of peeling paint. Or it is my embarrassing innocence. For the fact is that at the moment I cannot say, cannot accept, cannot truly comprehend that my lover, the love of my life, is a woman—a woman like myself. I turn and hold her angular, soft-skinned, slightly lopsided face in my hands. "You," I say grinning, gingerly pausing between each word. "You-are-a-lesbian." Her mouth is a small coy smile, her eyes are two arcs shining above her cheekbones. "And you," she says in a husky voice, "You-are-too," I smile, but I do not believe her. It is 1982.

"All women are my sisters, all women are my love, my love is the love of all women." Reagan has been in office for only two years, and we are at a Take Back the Night March where we have our arms linked with a whole row of swaying, angry, singing women. I cannot remember anything except that at the end when Sweet Honey in the Rock begins to croon, my lover and I are weeping in each other's arms. Omigod, we are saying, women have been

through so much, we are so oppressed and so beautiful and so strong. When we walk home later that night we are swaggering with feminist bravado, daring any man to step in our way. We'll show him, we'll show him. We kiss on the street and shock the yuppies. I return to my elite women's college nestled far away in Massachusetts and stay up all night with my best friends (all brilliant, gorgeous girls) decoding phallocentric thought in the texts of Plato and Aristotle. We defile pictures of male nudes in books in the art history library and put woman symbols on every page of Freud's *Interpretation of Dreams*. My best friend, who I am also in love with, writes, "What about suppression of the seduction theory, you misogynist pig?" on the front page of Freud's *Essays on Sexuality*. We laugh our heads off about castration and all get A's in philosophy, Classical Greek and Latin. Being smart seemed like the best revenge.

My lover asks me if I will let her tie up my arms during sex, and I am shocked. What? Just joking, she says, and we are horrified when we find our gay male roommate's dildo. God, who would ever want to use that ugly thing, we ask. I am afraid of the women at my school who walk around in leather and snap small riding crops. I'm not sure what it's all about, but I'm sure it's got something to do with internalized, patriarchal values. That's what I've heard, at least. It has been two years since the infamous Barnard conference on the politics of sexuality and I avert my eyes when big tough women try to flirt with me.

We are fighting again. I can't stand her. Every time I look at her I feel like throwing up or smacking her or telling her to shut up. We have been lovers for three years now, and we can't stop fighting—she isn't listening to me,



Photo: T.L. Litt

why does she have to act so god-damned macho all the time, she's not communicating, she can't analyze the situation and intelligently discuss it, we're all wrong for each other and have been from the beginning, how did we let it go on this long anyway?

Last week the big debate was on being out if you're famous. I said that when I win my Academy Award I would proudly announce her name as my lover. She wavers. When she gets her Grammy, well, she's not so sure. I mean, it's a difficult situation, one does have to consider one's career, and whose business is it anyway? I run into the bathroom and cry. You traitor, I say. I've given up everything for you. Then I wonder, what have I given up? And what choice did I have in the first place?

But I can't live without her. Whenever we suggest a trial separation, one of us wimp's out and gives in, and then we're back together again barely holding on, walking on a tightrope, a long, thin piece of string high up above the ground. If I lose her how will I find another girlfriend? What happens if she sleeps with someone else while we're not speaking? Didn't we say we would love each other forever? We hate each other. Then it's back to bed, or the kitchen floor, the couch, the

bathtub, the empty office down the hall where I am a lowly temp—anywhere we can find space to spread out naked and unadorned to fascinate, tantalize and thrill each other. I say "my girlfriend, my lover, lesbian, dyke" real loud in restaurants and know that soon this relationship will be over.

My mother says I will be forced to live in the demimonde of freaks and queers, like an ugly and mean circus. I tell her to shut up and go to a workshop on homophobia.

I am the first of my friends to graduate, and I move to New York alone. My lover has someone living in

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**Even though I once had a gay male roommate, he was all mystery to me. Girls were the only thing in life.**

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our old apartment, and my mother has all my things in boxes in her basement. She says not to worry, I'll get over it. In New York no one cares that I was a straight-A student or the editor of the literary magazine where I wrote blistering articles about the psychopathology of post-feminism in the Reagan Era. I fail typing tests and cry all night in my hell-hole apartment wondering if my now ex-lover will call and tell me to wake up, she was just joking anyways. I meet women all

the time and think I like them and find out they are straight. I can't believe it. I could have sworn we were flirting and having a romantic evening. They tell me they are shocked to find out I'm "gay."

I go to Girl Bar and lean against the wall. How come everyone here seems to know everyone else here? I think to myself. I try to read Mary Daly's new book and throw it across the room. Shut up, I scream. Since when have you tried to live in New York City by yourself as a radical lesbian feminist? One of my two best friends comes to visit me in New York and we go to Bloomingdale's because she needs a dress for her job interviews. We are riding up the escalator on a Tuesday afternoon and the store is jammed with female shoppers. She looks at me and says dryly, "I have a feeling the revolution might not happen in our lifetime."

My best friend, who I was really in love with, is hooked up with someone else now—a girl with a mustache. They are completely in love and happy. I am so angry I could spit. Some sister, I think, as I practice my typing at night. During the day I walk around the city and pretend I am on vacation, though I realize that this vacation is going to last forever so I better figure out what I am doing soon. I haven't had sex in eight months, and my mouth is aching to kiss someone. Anyone.

I meet a man. He is an older Jewish intellectual who is in analysis four days a week. He hasn't been with a woman in five years. I tell him he's got a serious problem, and it could probably all be traced back to the misogyny of Freudian analysis. He tells me I have a problem if I keep falling for straight women, perhaps a bit of internalized homophobia in there? I suggest that he spend some of his time helping others instead of talking about himself on a couch four times a week. He tells me I should put some of that lesbian feminist theory into practice if I'm so damn committed to changing the world.

I become a volunteer at the battered women's shelter in Harlem. In the "library" there, which consists of two bookshelves, every single book is a Harlequin romance novel. I tell my new male friend that everything wrong with the world is the fault of men.

I call my best friend, who I am really in love with, and confess that even though I hate him, I want to fuck this man. She tells me I am a traitor and hangs up. I stare at my bookshelf at night and wonder what literature can help me get through this. Theory is proving to be a fragile friend. For the first time in my life I begin to read novels. I read anything I can get my hands on as long as it is fiction. I recall that "library" of two bookshelves. I think of it and nod my head.

I have begun to hang out at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center hoping to catch a glimpse of some kind of lesbian life that is exciting and interesting and meaningful. All the women I meet are "professionals" and seem to be looking over the top of my heads when I speak. All the men I meet are "in business" and invite me out for coffee so we can talk about their love lives and how difficult it all is with AIDS and everything. I haven't ever really thought about AIDS before. I've certainly never really thought about gay men before. Even though I had once had a gay male roommate, he was all mystery to me. Girls were the only real thing in life anyway. But soon I find myself volunteering to be a buddy at GMHC.

My first client is 60 years old. He and his lover have been together for 28 years, most of them clandestine, since my client was married with children. Now he is a six-foot, four-inch bag of bones who yells at me when I try to cook him something to eat. Only his lover can do anything right. I am an incompetent, according to him, but who cares, let's just sit and talk anyway. And he tells me about his 28-year love affair with Anthony, about the flashing lights bouncing off all the gorgeous hunks at the Saint and the time they did acid together and then he had to go home and talk to his wife. And how he would take trips for his job and call Anthony up and say, "Get on a plane now, I'm in Hong Kong." And what is my story anyway? He

never talked to a lesbian. When he dies, Anthony sells their apartment and moves to Key West.

After my second client dies, I decide I am a terrible buddy. I am impatient and easily frightened by the enormity of the situation. I can't hold anyone's hand anymore. I miss being around lesbians but want to continue doing AIDS work. Every time I try to do something "lesbian-oriented" I find myself feeling alienated and angry. The smell of patchouli makes me nauseated, and I do not want to talk about feminism anymore. I want to be with happy, smart, beautiful, right-on girls, but I don't know where to find them. I haven't kissed a woman in one year. I spend my time reading articles about AIDS and HIV-illness. What I read between the lines in the pages of those journals is some kind of deep longing and despair that I cannot name. It is as though in AIDS I will find the right place to scream—about the world, about my life, about loss. And I am strangely comforted by the fact that if I do scream, no one will be able to hear me above the din of so many others.

I try to convince my one good dyke friend that what I am doing is interesting and important. "Just take care of the boys, like you're supposed to," she snorts.

I start using the words "lesbian and gay." I read gay male magazines and look at gay male porn. I go dancing at Boy Bar with some of my gay male friends and listen in on the "dish." One night I am at another panel discussion on AIDS when a handsome and hip-looking young man gets up at the end and says a new group has just formed, a direct action protest group called ACT UP—the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power. I really laugh at that one. Unleashing power is an ancient tenet of feminism; where did these boys get that language? It is 1987 and the AIDS crisis is in its sixth year.

My lover and I are sitting in a cafe drinking Rolling Rock and recovering from our latest conflict. I am trying to be close to her. I am trying to be a good lover. I am trying not to give in to the hatred that I see closing in on us every day. I am trying to tell her that I love her, but the words

continued on page 57

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# Look Out



Photo: T.L. Litt

The owners of Emkay Appliances on Essex Street are getting an unusual amount of Monday night business from lesbians dressed-to-kill and looking to get down. What was a once-in-a-while phenomenon has turned into a common, annoying mistake among women trying to find Deb Parker's weekly fete at the club

MK. And, as usual, it's New York Telephone which is at the bottom of all the confusion. When callers dial directory assistance and ask for MK, operators are spelling it out as it sounds — e-m-k-a-y — and giving the address of the Essex Street appliance store. And women are arriving to find a different kind of bun warmer entirely.

—Michelangelo Signorile



Photo: T.L. Litt

**O**nce one of the busiest banks in Manhattan, The Provident Loan Society of New York on Houston Street closed its doors over 10 years ago and the impressive, granite building was bought by artist Jasper Johns who used it as his studio. Now, again, the landmark Lower East Side edifice has changed hands, and, from what Look Out hears, will become a nightclub, following in the vault steps of MK (see Look Out, opposite page), which too was once a money trading

center. Our spies have already seen the huge bar, and the dance floor sadly replaces the original interior which Johns had left intact. Still, we'd much rather see a bank become a disco than the other way around. B Squared, a yuppie club in Tribeca, last year installed a bank machine off its dance floor. And we all remember Octagon, the nightclub designed for the "after Wall Street" crowd which featured an electronic ticker tape for anxious patrons.

—Michelangelo Signorile



## OUT OF MY HANDS BY BRADLEY BALL

Dear Brad:

Don't you think it's more than a little peculiar that Jacqueline Onassis' mother, Janet Auchincloss, died on the very same day that Rose Kennedy celebrated her birthday?

-Nobody's Fool

Dear Fool:

The Kennedy Family has always had more than its share of strange coincidences. Did you know, for instance, that the names Kennedy and Lincoln each contain seven letters and that both presidents, having died of gunshot wounds, were succeeded by vice-presidents named Johnson? Did you know that Kennedy had a secretary named Lincoln and Lincoln had a secretary named Kennedy? Did you know that Rose Kennedy turned 99 years old on July 15th and Janet Auchincloss was 81 years old at the time of her death? *Both ages are multi-*

*ples of nine!* Did you know that John Kennedy, Jr. was born in 1960 and I was born in 1960? We were both raised by single mothers and people are often confusing the two of us with each other. What does all of this tell you? Mere coincidence? Proof of the existence of darker forces too sinister and complicated for any of us to understand? Perhaps one day we will know the truth. Until then you are wise not to accept these matters at face value.

Dear Brad:

Have you seen my lover? I could have sworn that I told him to meet me after work at Marvin Gardens restaurant on Broadway but maybe I wasn't thinking and said Marvin's Place restaurant on Ninth Avenue by mistake. I waited almost two hours and then went back to our apartment and I haven't seen him since. That

was in April. He's never done anything like this before except for maybe that time when we were first dating and he *said* he was going see *A Doll's Life* and I tried calling him all night and he didn't pick up the phone until 10:38 in the morning two days later. I promised him then that I would get over being so insecure but this time I'm kind of beginning to worry, especially since I've had to take on a second job to make the rent payments.

-FRANTIC

Dear Frantic:

Frankly, many of us were unable to speak to people, even our loved ones, for a considerable period of time after seeing *A Doll's Life*. I remember that my best friend and I could only stare helplessly at each other after that curtain rang down and we still had the prospect of Liv Ullman's *Ghosts* looming before us. Ever since that fateful autumn I've mentioned this to other fellow survivors and have discovered that every single person continues to experience periodic nightmares and extended episodes of severe withdrawal. I know of one extreme instance where a talented young man changed his name, left the country and was last seen operating a grain elevator in Moss Bank, Saskatchewan. Experts have called this the "Season-They-Murdered-Ibsen Syndrome" and it can be alleviated (though, unfortunately, not cured) with some mighty intense therapy. Your lover will almost certainly return and you will have to be as supportive and understanding as possible in helping him to deal with the effects of this trauma.

Confidential to Nellie F.:

You could say life is just a bowl of Jello but you would not, however appear more intelligent and smart. ▼

### Nightmare of the Week



This week's nightmare, State Senator John Marchi of Staten Island, wants to amend queers out of the New York State Constitution. It seems the Creature From The Garbage Landfill was so outraged at the State Supreme Court's ruling that gays are family and can inherit their mates' apartments, that he wants to rewrite the state charter to specifically redefine family as straight only.

If Staten Islanders keep reelecting this creep, we'd like to see them secede after all. From the United States!



By Michelangelo Signorile

**S**ome of you might want me to leave Liz Smith (*New York Daily News*), alone (you've even told me as much). But I simply can't resist. And besides, her sins are much too numerous for me to quit now.

As you can imagine, I never did receive that letter from Liz (the one which she'd had someone call to say she was sending) which was to be some sort of response to something I'd written about her in this very column which seeks to balance the scales of justice tipped by all-powerful gossip columnists in their own favor, and also seeks to combat the blatant homophobia which gossip columnists dabble in, though many of them are gay or lesbian (got that?). I don't know what Liz could've been mad about.

Anyway, it's now day 30 and no letter. Either the mail is slow, or it's something else. I do know that Liz has been away for a while, as can be evidenced at the bottom of her column where it says, "Liz Smith is on vacation. This column is a collaboration with St. Clair Pugh and Denis Ferrara." (It has said this for a couple of weeks now.) These two guys are Liz's assistant's who are obviously watching the fortress while she's gone — and of course they must be writing the column. See, I'm trying to understand why it says "collaboration" at the bottom. It just doesn't seem conceivable that Liz would be cruising the Nile, or touring Paris or lying by a pool in Palm Springs while simultaneously barking orders on a telephone about what's going in the column. And even more peculiar is the fact that the writing style of the column is

the same as usual, which makes me wonder how much of the column Liz actually writes when she is in town.

Anyway, Liz's two assistants, who seem to have an enormous crush on "handsome Hal Rubenstein...who will become the editor of Malcolm Forbes's upcoming magazine, EGG," (they even ran his photo), quoted *TheaterWeek* magazine last week, something which struck me as funny considering that a boycott has been called of *The Native* and all other Charles Orleb publications, which include *TheaterWeek*. And I would have thought that Liz (or her assistants), of all people, would join in on the boycott. Then again, it was Liz, whom I thought would not be worried about having children at this stage of the game (she and her good friend, the archaeologist Iris Love, are both in their sixties), who recently told *Mirabella* magazine, "You can't attack people in New York and survive. Or you might survive but you're never going to be part of the inside group. You have a baby. You're going to

want that child accepted in a good private New York school. Well once you go to the board and they find out that you're this person who's made a lot of important people suffer, they're going to say forget it. You can't get away doing that kind of stuff."

Fuck you, Liz! Fuck you! Fuck you! Fuck you! Fuck you!

Anyway, now that I got that out of my system, I should tell you more of what Liz said in the interview with her and supermodel Jerry Hall (together over dinner) in the August *Mirabella*. In one part of the interview she says of *Spy* magazine, "They write mean, nasty things about people they don't like." Then, in another part of the interview, she calls Oprah Winfrey a "cockroach." But the careful reader will revel at the part when Liz says to Jerry Hall, "I want you to show off your bathing suit" (Jerry strips down). And later when Liz hands Hall her telephone number, saying, "Just in case you ever want to get some news out in a hurry." ▼

## Things that people-who've-successfully-completed-psychotherapy-but-still-watch-too-much-damn-television say:

"I was always isolated, alone, separate from the family. Much like Alice on *The Brady Bunch*."

"I'd come to the realization that most of my relationships had a Lucy-Ricky pattern — classic, sexist and sadly overshadowed by failure and low self-esteem. I knew I'd wanted something else (and not an Ethel-Fred relationship since that was simply a more refined, subtle version of the Lucy-Ricky model). No, what I wanted was much more radical, much more cutting edge. I wanted a Lucy-Ethel relationship and wanted it to include genital contact and — dare I say — life-partner-bonding which excluded Ricky and Fred, but which may or may not have included Mrs. Trumble."

"In my family I was made to feel unneeded, unloved and ugly. Yes, they were *The Munsters* and I was the niece Marilyn."

"It could never work. He was so *Flintstones*. I was ultimately very *Jetson's*."

"I was very abrasive. In any sort of group interaction, be it a pot luck dinner or a lesbian affinity group meeting, I was consistently playing the role of Mr. Wilson on *Dennis the Menace*, or Dr. Smith on *Lost in Space* or, worse yet, Alexandra on *Josie and the Pussycats*."

"I'm a softee. I always took on too, too many tasks at once. I was a veritable *Hazel*."

"You've no idea what it's like to be the Ted Baxter of your class!"

# Social Terrorism

Photos by Ericb Conrad



STARR ATTRACTIONS

Maria Perez, Victoria Starr and Oza at Big Haus



ISN'T THAT THE LOOK OF LOVE?

Book of Love's Ted Ottaviano and designer Jeffrey Costello at Big Haus



SPEAKING IN TONGUES

Jim Fouratt and Brian Belovich at Big Haus



DOOR LORE

Club Lafayette doorman Gilbert



BUSTGHOSTER!

The devastating William Love at the Copacabana



COPA KISS

Susanne Bartsch and Michael Clark get mushy at the Copacabana



FUNKY AND CHIC

Lisa Cooper and Don Monroe at Funk, Inc.



FANCY DANCERS

*Stephen Petronio, Madame and Michael Clark at the Copa*



LOVE IS A MANY SPLENDORED LIP

*Guys and dolls at the Copa*



WIGSHOCK

*Have we gone too far this time?*



MELANCHOLY BABY?

*Gregory Melendrez at the Copa*



MIXED MEDIA

*OutWeek's Kendall Morrison and cable TV's Robin Byrd at Big Haus*



RENDER BENDER

*Clark Render at Funk, INC.*



RECLINING LEWD, RUDE AND ALMOST NUDE

*Chicklette at the Copa*

# *Speaking in Tongues*

## "WHO ARE YOU CALLING A DYKE, GIRLFRIEND?"

by Liz Tracey

Lesbians haven't always been lesbians. Not that there haven't always been lesbians; it's that we haven't always been called lesbians. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, we were (and sometimes still are) Sapphists, Uranians, homosexuals, and just plain unnatural. For some good reason, all the really nasty names seemed to stick it out for a good half-century or so. But as the lesbian community and the times have changed, rules as complex as a Latin textbook have sprung up: just what do you call whom, and who wants to be called what?

So for the benefit of *all* gay men and lesbians who are just becoming aware of the strange looks that they get when they say the dreaded "H" word, here is a short (but by no means comprehensive) list of the most-often heard terms, and the unwritten rules that surround them.

### butch:

can be used two ways: 1) by other girls about someone... (dreamily) "oh she's so butch" ... 2) by idiotic guys who are always standing in front of your house at 3 a.m. and will say it no matter what miniskirt you're wearing.

### femme:

used almost solely by other girls about each other, either teasing them about their poor lipstick application ("Cut the femme act, Olive"), or as use #1 for butch: "She's so femme, you just want her to take you home and make Betty Crocker..."

### lipstick:

These women are the femmes of the 80s, with a little less roleplaying and more fashion consciousness. Because of the stupidity of some straight people, they are often mistaken as members of the breeder nation. They are fun to date, if only for the jungle red they leave on your t-shirt collar.

### lesbo/lezzie:

the only time you ever hear these variations on a theme is when you're in a playground full of eight-year-olds, and some little blond creampuff in a frilly dress has just whumped the class bully.

### diesel dyke:

a relative of truckdriver and bulldagger, this particular epithet is usually used by middle aged men. Deep in our heart of hearts, we truly love diesel dykes as the first women who were out everywhere (along with butch/femme couples pre-Stonewall). This exchange (overheard) may epitomize this phenomenon:  
First Dyke (upon seeing a cute girl): Hey, chickie, baby...  
Second Dyke: Oh man, I'd like to get me some of that.  
First Dyke: Yeah, boy, she was hung like a doughnut.

### gay woman:

(related term: "glamour lesbian"; as if the others weren't) what once was a fairly adventurous thing to call yourself has now become the upscale, Y-girl term for women who identify more with their careers/their gender more than what they're doing with their girlfriends (and the implications thereof).

### homosexual:

formerly a term denoting gay men and lesbians. The only people who currently still use it this way are deranged psychiatrists and right-wing homophobes, excepting Governor Tom Kean, who remembers that we're lesbians in the same sentence as Satan-worshippers and lunatics

### muff-diver:

seems to be a regionalism. Only to be used by gossip columnists and dyke porn writers.

### crunchy:

sort of a cross between lesbian feminist and a Grateful Dead fan, can be detected by their choice of fragrance, food and music. They're political beasts, and never miss a chance to sing "We Are a Gentle, Angry People..."

### dyke:

a word which has gone from hated to loved to despised to liked to loved. These four little letters are so nuanced that gay men are afraid to say it to their friends because they might say it the wrong way. Lesbian activists use it gleefully in the company of straights. Two things: 1) straight men should never use this word, 2) gay men in the company of lesbians, should wait and see what word they're using

### girlfriend:

could be the girl you're sharing your days, nights and sex toys with, or the girls you spend time with trying to hunt down someone to play with. Friends or lovers, it's obviously adopted from the boys (thank you), and can be used in all its variations in everyday conversation.

\* NOTES ON "GIRL" AND "DYKE": Nowhere have these words been heard more than in the activist community. In conjunction with "fag" and "boy", it seems to signal not a regression but a reclamation on the community's part to seize control of the language surrounding it, and put the joy and passion into these words which have been alternately denied to us, and used to cause us pain.

### bull-dyke:

I have never heard anyone say this, except in bad 70s prison exploitation films.

### woman-identified-woman or woman-loving woman:

pretty self-explanatory, wouldn't you say?

### lesbian-identified bisexual-active woman:

let's get over this one

### girl:

Not all women are girls, not all girls are women, some are wombin, wimmin, etc. When lesbians are discussing girls, you can be sure they are discussing other lesbians for the most part (or women they wish were lesbians). This word is usually prefaced by the word "cute", or suffixed by "with a bad attitude she couldn't afford."

# Fag Baiting

by Michelangelo Signorile

Everywhere you go men are talking about — what else? — how to meet other men.

Well, we all know this is a complex process which we sometimes, naively, try to explain in nine words or less. First and foremost, before discussing *how* to actually *meet* men, we have to figure out what kind of men we're talking about.

New York City is a diverse metropolis, the World Capital, as we're told. Although we couldn't describe *every* kind of man in the city, *OutWeek* has outlined some of the more popular types who proudly glide down the streets of New York, back packs in tow, every day — and how to nab one. (Note: Making things even more complicated, most men occupy two or even three of these categories. Some are virtual *Sybils*, and occupy all categories.)

## The Health Food Fag

You can find him in any restaurant that serves Miso soup or in any unattractive grocery that has lots of barrels. Sometimes he's a fake (says he eats this stuff, but sneaks Skippy peanut butter when you're not looking). Always full of surprises, he can whip out some sort of crunchy, nutty food and add yogurt to it at a moment's notice. He has a tendency to drink everything out of the carton. (Also, has weird things growing in the refrigerator).

**Bait:** Wear crystals, carry Louise Hay books and eat unpeeled carrots on the street.

## The Upper East Side Fag

Likes stripes for clothing and furniture. Doesn't know the name of the subway that runs up Lexington Avenue. Always takes cabs. Likes humiliation and loves to suck dick. Always has a cat. \$250 phone sex bills are his way of feeling downtown.

**Bait:** Stand near any corner where you see them hailing cabs in the direction of uptown. Grab your crotch.

## Fag de la Terminally Trendy

Sideburns. Doo rags. The Bar. Boy Bar. 19 earrings. Ripped jeans or cut-off, folded-at-the-knee jeans. This sort of specimen, frequently tasty, is omnipresent at ACT UP meetings, in the East Village or at Mars on Sunday nights.

**Bait:** Offer a few hits of Ecstasy and a place to stay for the night. Expect *anything* to happen.

## The Doublemints

This is actually two fags. They are lovers and they simply refuse to separate — many times a sleeping arrangement with one means you will get the other by default. The doublemints can be annoying. Sometimes they even speak in unison and wear similar outfits.

**Bait:** Engage one in stimulating conversation, while looking at the other's crotch the whole time.

## Fag on the Far Left

Ultimately his politics are more important than what he plans to wear, what he plans to do, who he plans to sleep with and where he plans to go on any particular night. Reads INCESSANTLY. Does lots of public speaking. Has two goals: 1) to liberate the masses; 2) to become a lesbian.

**Bait:** If you are Black, Latino, or — strangely enough — a lesbian, you have better chances. Otherwise, talk a lot about Blacks, Latinos, lesbians, liberation, Marxism and leftist scholars.

## The Faggot Republican

Says he's proud of his politics, which are just like Daddy's. Joined Gay Republicans under a pseudonym. Doesn't think there is any contradiction between being gay and having "traditional" politics. Believes every disagreement should be solved in meetings, while wearing a suit. Sleeps with congressmen, senators and administration people.

**Bait:** Ride Metroliner to Washington. Look for men traveling alone, wearing conservative suits and that just-a-bit-too-splashy tie (a dead giveaway). Tell them you want to be a page on Capitol Hill. ▼

# Film

# Adventurous Duo

**Four Adventures of Reinette and Mirabelle**, produced, directed and written by Eric Rohmer. Distributed by New Yorker Films. Playing at Lincoln Plaza Cinema.

by Peter Bowen

Halfway through the first adventure of Eric Rohmer's *Four Adventures of Reinette and Mirabelle*, the two heroines—and the audience—receive a lesson from a local farmer on how to grow endive. Shot in a straight-forward manner with direct sunlight and looking more like a farming documentary than a French narrative film, the endive lesson seems at first oddly inappropriate. Yet the nature of learning, of how one learns to grow endive or to live in this world, becomes one

of the most difficult and engaging lessons of this film.

Appropriately, then, both the film and the main characters' friendship begin with a lesson. Bicycling in the country, Mirabelle (Jessica Forde), an ethnography student from Paris, has no idea how to fix a flat tire until the country native, Reinette (Joëlle Miquel), guides her, step by step, on the craft of tire patching. Curious about a world so different from either Paris or her parents' "country" home, Mirabelle accepts Reinette's seductive invitation to experience nature's grand secret, the "Blue Hour," that momentary and invisible border between night and day when, as Reinette says, "nature holds its breath" and the night chorus of frogs and owls silently gives way to the clang of daylight.

We soon learn, however, that one's intentions are not necessarily

one's experience. When the women do drag themselves out before dawn with nightgowns on to experience the celebrated "Blue Hour," their perfect silence is ruined by the loud grumbling of a distant tractor. And when Reinette suddenly becomes hysterically angry at the disruption of her "moment," claiming "friends always ruin everything," the women's budding friendship seems also near ruin. But their friendship, as the film necessarily demands, continues, based now as much on disagreements as on shared moments. On a different night, the two women, independent of each other, venture out again to experience this moment of silence successfully, and afterwards embrace each other in the blue morning light with the same gracious silence that they have just experienced.

Shot on an extraordinarily low budget and as a working vacation from *Summer* (Rohmer's own film about

vacations), the film thus proceeds not by an enthralling narrative or an engrossing plot, but by a series of adventures, of simple interventions with the world, and—as with all Rohmer films—by subsequent discussions about the events which have transpired. In the second adventure, "The Waiter," Reinette, who has moved to Paris to share an apartment with Mirabelle in order to pursue art studies, becomes terrorized at a cafe by the most terrifying element of French society, a Parisian waiter. In the third adventure, "The Beggar, The Kleptomaniac, The Hustler," each woman must confront her feelings



LESSON IN FLAT FIXING

Joëlle Miquel and Jessica Forde

continued on page 57

## Performance

# Wah-T?

by John Wasser

**A**ttention Students of the Mind! It's Thursday evening and you're pooped. What was once "work" is now "slavery." You and your boss constantly fight, further jeopardizing your already tenuous employment status. Mr./Ms. Right has yet to materialize, leaving you slightly depressed. To compensate, you plop your butt squarely in front of the boob tube and watch yet another Knot's Landing rerun. You and Val are becoming old friends.

Get up! Don your best black outfit (black is de rigueur; wear white and you'll immediately find yourself at *Don't Tell Mama*), grab a taxi and haul ass to King Tut's Wah Wah Hut. Every Thursday evening at 10 pm is "Speaker Night"—and this is no ordinary lecture forum.

Eclecticism is the name of the game. For example, five hundred people waited patiently to hear Sukhreet Gabel extol about the virtues of family connections and the job market. Ultra Violet recounted several episodes deleted from her best seller (drinking Salvador Dali's urine was one free-flowing thought.)

Hosted by Professor Fashion (a.k.a. "Mr. Fashion" or Gerard Little to residents north of Fourteenth Street) and Wah Wah Hut owner Dug Wah (ne Landau), the Speaker Series has already gained a cachet among the trendy downtown crowd. "What began as an idea, has truly blossomed," stated Wah, grabbing a cigarette.

The duo first booked downtown artistes... Taboo, Sister Demention.

Hapi Face and Ethyl Eichelberger — not exactly names you'll find on a Stage Deli sandwich, but Wah and Professor Fashion didn't care.

"We were a hit," chimes Professor Fashion. Tall and thin-hipped, Professor Fashion is a natural charmer. Decked out in a full-length black sequined outfit, he's the perfect hostess, flitting from table to table, smiling warmly and welcoming freshmen and alumni alike to the evening's festivities. He's a diva on parade, a veritable combination of Diana Ross and Little Richard. School was never this much fun.

Soon, Wah and Professor Fashion invited more recognizable faces to speak. "Persona is important," offers Wah, lighting another cigarette. "We want truly autobiographical moments." Tiny Tim harangued them about money (he wanted much more than the \$75 honorarium) but eventually relented. He held two lectures and sang "The Beat Goes On" playing both Sonny and Cher. "People were shouting 'Tiny Tim. Tiny Tim.' It was amazing."

Tiny Tim's initial reluctance could not compare to Channel Nine's Joe Franklin. The self-proclaimed "Mr. Nostalgia" kept putting off the duo, using his secretaries as buffers. "I finally got a hold of him," related Wah, "and he agreed to speak. You have to remember, this guy had not



TIPTOE'ING THROUGH THE WAH WAH HUT

Tiny Tim

been downtown for twelve years. An hour before he was set to speak, he calls me up and cancels. I was pissed! So I hired a limo which we now use for everyone—makes them feel important—and he spoke. The audience loved him."

Franklin's case was not unusual. Most often, the crowd is appreciative, although hostility sometimes festers. Take Sukhreet Gabel, at the time, embroiled in a huge public trial, her Lane Bryant physique plastered across the media. Wah lights yet another cigarette and moves forward in his seat. "The audience was ready to pounce, but she deflected each and every one of them. As a matter of fact, she also did two shows."

Of course, not everyone wishes  
continued on page 57

Poetry

# Women Who...

by Eva Yaa Asantewaa

"...one iron silence broken..."

—Audrey Lorde (from "Call")

**W**hen I was a kid, my mother warned me about many things, some quite justifiably alarming. But the strangest had to be this—women who read poetry to you. Translation: *lesbians*. It's still twisted around in my head. Was it their own poetry, written especially to lure shy, lonely, unsuspecting, West Indian, Catholic girls? Was it tried-and-true lyrical seduction from lesbians past? What, exactly, was the connection between lips emitting poetry and lips that might find less savory things to do? And did my mom suspect that she harbored a poet/lesbian beneath her own, proper roof?

Nuns read poetry to us in school, especially if the poems were tame, patriotic, religious, written by a renowned male poet, or written by a woman with a safe or sanitized life story (e.g., Emily Dickinson). Should I have feared the nuns (I did—but only because they did unspeakable things with heavy rulers supplied by the CIA)? Meanwhile, writing copious poetry—and satires, ghost stories, and fantasies with revealing gay and pagan themes—quickly became my way of surviving in a family too caught up in its problems to notice the distinct presence and needs of a child.

Through the years, my skills developed, and, in my senior year, I took the annual prize for fiction at my



WORKSHOP FOR "WIMMIN"  
Hattie Gossett

Photo: Alan Kikudni

university, I graduated, became depressed and shut down my creative writing for nearly fifteen years. Fifteen years of silence which I filled by writing about other people's art.

As an arts journalist, I could use my sensitivities to absorb, dissect, interpret, and sometimes champion. Yet I could not touch my own creative core. That door appeared to be sealed forever, and the worst of it was my attitude of defeat, the times when I fully accepted that I would never write creatively again.

About two years ago, I began to try to figure out how I got derailed in relationships with women as unloving as the men I'd hooked up with in earlier years. I started to read some popular books and eventually fell in with a "bad crowd," people my mother surely wouldn't approve of, but whom I grew to respect and love. They'd get together in groups and talk about their damaged childhoods and how they were doing today. Some of them would even talk about how they'd gone on to abuse themselves with chemicals or food or sex or self-mutilation. I knew that, despite my avoidance of drugs and alcohol, in my love-hungry soul I had more in common with them than not. They opened their mouths and spoke the plain and painful truth. I saw that it was okay—and healing—to do so.

Poetry began to explode all over my life, and it had everything to do with women. (Lesbian, straight, or as yet unidentified: It doesn't seem to matter. They're all renegades from the land of silence, where, for security reasons, it is best to keep the state secrets.) I first noticed it when I got this strange craving to have women read poetry not only to me but to people all over New York (through a series of programs on WBAI co-produced with Jennifer Bernet). The research took me to the library to find more women poets—the ones I'd forgotten, the ones I'd missed over the years. This is a progressive disease, and I soon found myself squeezed into a hot room with hundreds of excited women, all eager to have Audre Lorde read her fierce poetry to them. And Lorde, when she was finished with us, said it was not enough for us to admire her. Her poems are not diversions: They are marching orders.

Something was stirring, so I slipped into Hattie Gossett's writing workshop for "wimmin" where that bad girl of poetry advised us to "sweep the goblins off our typewriters." It is people-pleasing, the need for approval, that feeds the silence. She offered a dozen suggestions for writing exercises, little things like, "dialogue: between par-

### MARCHING ORDERS

Audrey Lorde

ent & son; son claims writing is for girls and fags" and "editorial: why does the media give more attention to white women rape victims than it does to women of color rape victims." Goblins, fuck off!

On a steamy afternoon in Chinatown, Genny Lim, like Lorde, spoke of writing poetry as an act of naming and empowerment. Men outnumbered women in her small workshop. Her background in theater and journalism, of course, delighted me. She nurtured our experiments, and I discovered how few words were necessary to make an incendiary device.

And then, in June, Pat Parker died. She made a good life of poetry and healing and activism. At the massive march for lesbian/gay rights in Washington, she had reminded us that whether we remained silent or shouted our love from the rooftops, the forces of oppression would come for us—so, why not speak? Years before, she wrote (for her daughter, for us):

*Each generation improves the world  
for the next...  
I give you a world incomplete  
a world  
where  
women still  
are property and chattel  
where  
color still  
shuts doors  
where  
sexual choice still*



Photo: Marilyn Humphries



### RIDING THE RUMBLE

Jayne Cortez

*threatens  
but I give you  
a legacy  
of doers  
of people who take risks  
to chisel the crack wider.*

from "Legacy"

At a SummerStage show on July 7th, another fighter poet charged onto the Central Park bandshell. Jayne Cortez rode the rumble of her Firespitter Ensemble, keeping the rumble in the clouds at bay. If Gaia (mother planet Earth) were to sing the blues, it would be in Cortez's voice, ranging from soft melisma to sirens slicing the dark.

*They will try to exploit you  
absorb you confine you  
or kill you  
And you will disappear into your own rage  
into your own insanity  
into your own poverty  
into a word a phrase a slogan a cartoon  
and then ashes...  
And we are programmed to self destruct  
to fragment...*

from "There It Is"

Cortez's bracing performance energized us. Then she delivered us into the hands of a dancing, near-singing Ntozake Shange (also aided and abetted by jazz musicians—Jean-Paul Bourelly and John Purcell on guitar and reeds, respectively). Shange radiated such pleasure in her

womanliness (and her autonomy) that nothing could militate against it. She is the one who wrote in the 70s:

*i found god in myself  
& i loved her/i loved her fiercely*

from "I Sat Up One Night" in *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When The Rainbow Is Enuf*

*For Colored Girls* scared one of my boyfriends into helpless anger. It was the first time I saw up close and fully understood the impact on a man when an African-American woman unplugged the self-hatred machine. I needed her message so much, and need it again today for the sake of my self-determination—my say over what I call myself, how I present myself, how I direct my power. There will always be people—some of them of my own color, gender and/or sexuality—trying to tell me how to do my life and trying to "make off with all my stuff," as Shange would say. Thank you, 'zake, fiery sun goddess.

At SummerStage, a friend of a friend asked, "What do you think started you writing poetry again?" Startled by the question I never stopped to ask myself, I muttered some-



**POETRY, HEALING, ACTIVISM**  
The late Pat Parker

Photo: Barbara Raboy

thing about being healthier. And that is true. Being in love with a woman who can write me a poem when she is in pain, and not being afraid to write her a frank, poetic reply, helps, too. Women reading to me in crowded rooms, in recording studios, or under the stars may not be the precise thing my mother worried about. But it is proving to be every bit as deliciously dangerous.

## FILM continued from page 52

about individuals who, for any number of reasons, are reduced to begging, stealing, or misleading others for money. And finally in the fourth adventure, "Selling the Picture," the women return to silence as Reinette, who talks incessantly about her art, is required by a wager with Mirabelle to keep perfectly silent about it when she attempts to sell a painting.

The film ends as inconclusively and haphazardly as it begins, but, as in any adventure, it never really intended to go anywhere, just to explore the terrain. Rohmer surveys here the quotidian terrain of life (paying rent, dealing with obnoxious waiters, etc.) and rarely strays into such grand narrative subjects as love or death. As such, the women (thank God!) almost never mention boys. Occupied instead with the complexities of learning how to live, individually and together, their lives, the women struggle, as if by accident, to make adventures out of the necessary moments of their days. ▼

## WAH-T continued from page 53

to bare their fragile egos and brave the unknown. For every Reno and Quentin Crisp who agree, there's those like the "s" contingent—Sue Simmons and Soupy Sales—who've sent their regrets. Simmons pleaded an 11 pm newscast while Sales demanded two thousand dollars. Upcoming bookings include the obscure (*Les Simpson, Editor of My Comrade*) to the more familiar (Al Lewis, "Grandpa Munster").

And then there's the Wish List. Wah pulls out his trusty filofax and begins reading...Author Xavier Hollander, filmmaker John Waters, monologist Eric Bogosian, cable hostess Robyn Byrd. The list seems endless, but we students of the mind do not care. The learning process is never complete; the lecture hall will always remain open. No grades are given, but questions are thoroughly encouraged.

King Tut's Wah Wah Hut is located at 112 Avenue A, at the corner of East Seventh Street. Phone number: (212) 254-7772. ▼

## LESBIAN LOVE continued from page 43

won't come out of my mouth. We have been together for ten months, through every kind of protest, from jails to safer sex forums to interminable committee meetings and fights with comrades, to exultant moments of empowerment as we take over some street or office or disrupt some political soiree.

She is younger than I, and feminism, though an interesting and sometimes meaningful abstraction, has not been her life force. I doubt she has ever spent time laughing about castration. She sees gay men as her comrades and buddies, her sisters and brothers all at once. I learn much from her, though I don't always understand where she is coming from. She takes my hand in hers and lovingly looks into my eyes. "How the hell did I meet someone like you?" she says smiling. I feel a vortex swirling about me, ideals and passions spinning loose in a time out of space. "The AIDS crisis," I answer. Since we've met 18,000 more people in the United States have died from AIDS.

It is 1989 and Bush is the president, though God knows we tried to stop him. My house is filled with articles and files and books on AIDS and HIV infection. Every spare inch of wall space is covered with some sign left over from some demonstration. I know what reverse transcriptase means and I argue about the significance of macrophages on T-cell development. I walk miles with groups of men and we debate issues of gender, sexuality, the different relationships of lesbians and gay men. I am no longer afraid to meet the eyes of big strong women, nor am I shocked at any variance of sexual expression. It is as though I have been submerged in the coldest water, like the water where people get baptized and the whole family yells their approval and weeps with joy afterwards. It is as though I have been submerged in the coldest water but I have spent most of my time slowly trying to swim to the top.

I have worked at odd jobs for two years so as to support myself as an activist, and I have ranted and raved publicly against what feels like a world of ever increasing greed and

hatred. I fear that someday I will look back and feel as though some of my youth was stolen from me, that while my lesbian peers have gone off to try to find stability, I have instead found myself caught up in the tumult of a very demanding and merciless moment of history. I want to stay in the eye of the storm and try to turn my ideals into actions. It is a very hard road.

My lover and I are walking down the street arm-in-arm as we often do and a young teenage boy comes up and starts to talk to us. "Hey," he leers, "you girls gay?" "Lesbian is the right word for female homosexuals," I say. "I wanna get to know you guys," he says cheerily. "I mean really, I want to be your friends." We start laughing. "Oh, please," I say, "leave us alone. There are plenty of other lesbians in the world for you to be friends with." He starts to walk away and then turns back. He is smiling, "You girls have a good time now," he says, "and don't forget to wear condoms."

I stand on the edge of the curb with my girlfriend as the boy turns into a small dot of traffic on Second Avenue. I am thinking of what has gone wrong. Logic that careens off course turns into something surreal. But I get it now: gays get AIDS, gays have to wear condoms because gays get AIDS, lesbians are gay, gays get AIDS, gays have to wear condoms, lesbians are gay, lesbians get AIDS, lesbians have to wear condoms, gays get AIDS, lesbians are gay, lesbians are gay, lesbians are gay.

I think of the eye of the storm. I feel myself spinning and resting, spinning and resting. I dream that my lover and I are walking west across a desert. I imagine we will be soon reaching the horizon where something wonderful is waiting for us, though I do not know what it is. We keep walking until I realize that the enigma of the horizon is that though you are always walking towards it, the closer you get the farther it moves away. When I wake up I tell my lover that I love her. I realize that there is no reason for waiting. ▼

*This article originally appeared in Chicago's Windy City Times.*

# COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

For Information on how to list your nonprofit organization in our Community Directory, please call Tom Eubanks at 212. 685.5277

## A.C.Q.C.

AIDS CENTER OF QUEENS COUNTY  
SOCIAL SERVICES-EDUCATION-BUDDIES  
COUNSELING-SUPPORT GROUPS  
Volunteer Opportunities  
(718) 896-2500(voice) (718) 896-2985(TDD)

## BODY POSITIVE

If you or your lover has tested HIV+, we offer support groups, seminars, public forums, reference library, referrals, social activities and up-to-date national monthly, "THE BODY POSITIVE" (\$15/year).  
(212) 633-1782.  
208 W. 13th St., NYC, NY 10011.

Congregation Beth Simchat Torah  
NY's Gay and Lesbian Synagogue Services  
Friday at 8:30pm 57 Bethune Street  
For info. call: (212) 929-9498.

## EDGE

For the physically disabled Lesbian and Gay Community.  
P.O. Box 305 Village Station  
New York, NY 10014  
(212) 989-1921

The Fund for Human Dignity  
National Gay and Lesbian Crisis Line  
"AIDS 800"--1-800-SOS-GAYS  
Educational Resource Center; Positive Images Media Center, NY State Arts Program  
666 Broadway Suite 410 NYC, NY 10012  
(212) 529-1600

## Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)

80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 (212) 966-1700  
GLAAD combats homophobia in the media and elsewhere by promoting visibility of the lesbian and gay community and organizing grass roots response to public anti-gay bigotry.

## HEAL

Health Education AIDS Liaison  
Weekly info and support group for treatments for AIDS which do not compromise the immune system further, including alternative and holistic approaches. Wed 8pm.  
208 West 13th Street (212) 674-HOPE.

## Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center

208 West 13th Street New York, NY 10011  
(212) 620-7310 9am-11pm everyday.  
A place for community organizing and networking, social services, cultural programs, and social events sponsored by the Center and more than 150 community organizations.

## NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

is the national grassroots political organization for lesbians and gay men. Membership is \$30/year. Issue-oriented projects address violence, sodomy laws, AIDS, gay rights ordinances, families, media, etc. through lobbying, education, organizing and direct action.

NGLTF 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009.  
(202) 332-6483.

## NORTHERN LIGHTS ALTERNATIVES

Improving Quality of Life for People with AIDS/HIV.  
THE AIDS MASTERY WORKSHOP: Exploring the possibilities of a powerful and creative life in the face of AIDS.  
Call Jack Godby (212) 337-8747

## People With Aids Coalition

(212) 532-0290 Hotline  
(212) 532-0568

Monday thru Friday 10am-6pm  
Meal programs, support groups, educational and referral services for PWA's and PWarc's.

## SAGE: Senior Action in a Gay Environment

Social Service Agency providing care, activities, and educational services for gay & lesbian senior citizens. Also serving over 150 homebound seniors and older PWA's.  
208 West 13th St. NYC 10011  
(212) 741-2247

## CITY AND STATE RESOURCES:

AIDS Discrimination Project (NY State): (212) 870-8624

AIDS Discrimination Unit (NYC): (212) 566-1826

AIDS Education and Program Services: (212) 285-4625

AIDS Helpline (NYC Human Resources): (212) 645-7070, 1, 2, 3, ... 9

AIDS Hotline (NYS Dept. of Health): 1-800-462-1884

Comptroller of NYC/ Free Lesbian and Gay Services Resources guide: (212) 669-7390

Governor's Liaison to Les/Gay Community: (518) 473-0015

NYC Commission on Human Rights: housing (212) 233-3984/  
employment (212) 566-6078

NYC Gay/Lesbian Antiviolence Project: hotline (212) 807-0197

NYS Division on Human Rights: (212) 870-8604

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sought for new series of gay community card decks. Minimum 2 yrs. ad sales experience required; strong telephone skills a plus. Excellent benefits, profit-sharing and pension plan, performance-based bonus, pleasant work environment. Salary commensurate with experience. Apply in writing only to Sean Strub, President, Strub/Dawson, Inc., 1 Bridge St., Irvington, New York, 10533

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OutWeek is seeking a Comptroller to oversee accounting, payroll, billing and collections. Salary commensurate with experience. Please send resume to:  
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77 Lexington Ave. Suite 200  
New York NY 10010  
ATT: Mr. Scott EOE

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OutWeek needs an organized, conscientious, detail-oriented assistant to provide clerical support to publisher. Ability to operate independently, see projects through to finish essential. 60WPM typing, WP, filing. Salary + benefits. Please send

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77 Lexington Ave, Suite 200

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## CIRCULATION MANAGER

OutWeek is hiring a circulation/distribution manager. Experience in marketing and promotions (especially direct mail) a plus. Salary + benefits. Please send resume to: OutWeek  
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ATT: Mr. Scott (EOE)

## ROUTE DRIVERS

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# PERSONALS

**EYES OF A POET**  
Build of a dancer, heart in the lines. GWM, 34, 5'8", 135, HIV+, brown hair and eyes, glasses, seeks GWM dance/theatre/art/poetry aware and himself arts driven. Outweek Box 1009

**MUST HAVE MAN!**  
W/M, 5'11", 180, 40's, sensuous, healthy, stache, masculine, muscular, well-built. Need hot sex, physical affection, fun, friendship/lover w/man 35-55. Hurry, get satisfied and much, much more! Outweek Box 1010

**GWF, 28, BARBARIAN**  
Romantic Rocker, Pagan, Slim, 53 1/2", with wild sense of humor and deep blue eyes seeks feminine GWF, slim 18-25, intelligent & sensitive, under 5'2" who likes rock, NYC, Bugs Bunny and Metaphysics. I like to lead but I don't like to push. Photo optional. Outweek Box 1013

**KEEP ME**  
23 year old NYU student is looking to be sponsored by well-built, well-hung, well-financed Daddy in exchange for a hungry mind with an insatiable appetite for new sexual experiences. Send photo. Outweek Box 1014

**PUERTO RICAN WANTED**  
Must be professional, masculine, between ages 20-40; relationship desired. I'm 35, 6', 180, All-American looks, dominant, non-smoker, ready to settle down. Photo, phone appreciated. P.O. Box 8197 JAF Station NYC 10116.

**ROCK AND ROLL FAG**  
Growing tired of clubs. Me: GWM, 24, blonde, good-looking, good shape. Likes: 70's rock, My Comrade,

ACTUP, guys with dark hair, R & R Fag Bar, Robin Byrd. Looking for movie and dinner dates, friends, romance, relationship, or just plain old hot sex. Send letter, phone and photo(a must). No cokeheads. Outweek Box 1018

**"DRUMMER" MAN**  
Attractive, affectionate GWM, 32, 5'10", 170, chunky, moustache seeks buddy (20-45) for dinner, theatre/movies/dancing and safe, sweaty sex at the sex. Moustache/beard, beefy, hairy a plus. Outweek Box 1019

**PLAYMATES WANTED**  
Butch-fem couple in Manhattan, ages 40 & 35, seeks lesbian singles or couples for wild fun and adventure. Join us for fantasies, erotic games, light bondage. No drugs, no pain. Outweek Box 1020

**DEFINITION**  
Progressive hunk (34, 6', 175) with post-modern affectations seeks supple articulations of body and thought--or at least former--with brawny friend(s). I enjoy dancing, activism, safe hot sex, cycling, sun, beauty, grace & all the usual stuff. Send photo and the rest to P.O. Box 1366, NY, NY 10025. Photo returned, if requested.

**MILDLY KINKY**  
GWM, 52, attractive, 5'10", 145, versatile, seeks hot sex, fun, relationship, friends, enjoys politics, activism, conversation, walks, travel, movies, much more. P.O. Box 173, NYC 10023.

**SEEKING GREAT TOP**  
Tall(6'4"), goodlooking bottom seeking tall top for fun times, definite adventure and passion! Me:30's, clean-shaven, brown hair-

green eyes, 185, gym shape, prof. You: 30's-40's, in shape, attractive, non-smoker, and passionate! Zip your letter, photo, phone to: Outweek Box 1045

**CUTE YOUNG GWM**  
Attractive GWM 26, 5'11", 150, seeking ship. Interests include top-40 pop music, beach, movies, tennis, romance, cuddling. Write to P.O. Box 171 Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

**MIRA**  
Very hot, 43 year-old, 6'1", 170, Bi/Bi, studying Spanish seeks Puerto Rican man to teach him some new words. Photo and phone please. P.O. Box 1256, NYC, NY 10159.

**LOOKS & BRAINS**  
GWM, 30, 6'1", 170. Good-looking and intelligent. Baseball, politics, arts, books, pubs, safe sex. Interested? P.O. Box 1521 Cooper Station, NYC, NY 10276

**WHITE MALE COUPLE**  
seeks to expand social horizons and meet other male couples. We are 31 and 46, enjoy movies, theatre, museums, bridge, and friendship. Please write to us at P.O. Box 541 New York, NY 10034.

**CIGARS!**  
Cigar-smoking men who love leather, uniforms, s/m, write H. Ash, P.O. Box 20147 London Terrace Station, NYC 10011.

**HIV POSITIVE**  
27, glasses, intellectual, tall, blondish-like stocky or dark men (Jewish or Latin). Turn ons: nipples, black boots, hairy legs, good attitudes, patience, sincerity. Write with photo to: P.O. Box 79 Chelsea Station, NYC 10011.

**TEN GAY/BI MALES**  
seek like, trim, masculine, health-conscious, gregarious for monthly meetings in midtown hotel suite. Send note and SASE: P.O. Box 6653 FDR, NY, NY 10150

**PREPPIE TOP**  
Boyish and charming, clean-cut, baby blue eyes. Likes: tennis, puppies, Upper West Side. Seeks cute bottoms for safe fun. Send photo to: P.O. Box 172, White Plains, New York 10605.

**BIWM, MUSCULAR**  
36, 5'8", 142, hot, hard muscular body, healthy, discreet seeks beefy muscle buddy, 160-260 for safe time. Box 783 Church Street Station, New York, NY 10008. Prefer 25-55.

**BI/FEMALE SOUGHT**  
for alliance w/ paraplegic single parent of 5 year-old. DWM, 30, computer graphics artist with a touch of offbeat madness seeks Bi/female compliment to live rent-free in Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn exchange for helping hand. Replies: K.D. King, 370 Court Street, Suite 15, Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn 11231. Send photo and phone #.

**UNCUT LOVER**  
wanted by steamy, dreamy, creamy blonde 28, 6', 150 lbs., endowed. Jeff, P.O. Box 8309, New York, NY 10116-8309. This stud's for you.

**BARK LIKE A DOG**  
GWM, 24 year-old B/B wants a dog to walk. If you like to get down on all fours to bark and eat from a person-

alized dog bowl, write and send photo. I'll treat you like the dog that you are. Outweek Box 1061

**LEAN ON ME**  
and I will lean on you. It's a tough world out there. GWM, 190#, Br/Br, looking for supportive relationship with a GM 25-40, prefer smooth, moustache okay. Answer with current photo and phone # to L.T.S. 20053 New York, NY 10011.

**AFFECTIONATE**  
GWM, 31, 5'9", 175 lbs., stocky, non-smoker, a little shy, seeks a tender, stable guy to 35 who is cute, slim, to enjoy movies, explore NY, hopefully romance. Write P.O. Box 523, New York, NY 10040.

**WM PUSSY**  
Submissive BiWM slut, 38, 6', 205lbs., Exp. bid/bid seeks to be used as a cross-dressed bound pussy and slut by dominant people 1-1 or by duos, trios, etc. Call Sandy, 212-978-3415, leave message.

**FRIENDLY BUTCH**  
GWM, 28, Br/Gr, 5'8", 155, clean-cut, muscular, very smart, HIV positive but healthy, seeks like-minded guy with a good attitude. I bicycle, work out, play jazz piano, like movies, history, politics, cuddling. If you're smart, in shape and looking for someone special write Jim with photo & phone #. Outweek Box 1066.

**GWM, 28, 145, 5'10", swimmer's body, Capricorn, mystical Jewish artist/activist.**

**MORE PERSONALS  
ON PAGE 64**

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## PERSONALS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 60

Sometimes all I want is a long kiss, your arms around me, our bodies bothered. Yes, I want more, I want love, I wait for you and your magic. I've got no "type", but please be young and sexy. I'll reciprocate safely. Photo and letter gets mine. Boxholder, P.O. Box 401157, Brooklyn, NY 11240.

**ALL AMERICAN** wanted by me. I am Hispanic, 30 years old, 160 lbs., 5'7", handsome and hot. Interested in a real friend and lover for sports, movies, dancing and more. No phonies! Picture and letter a must. P.O. Box 8430 JHA, New York NY 10116.

### STUDENT NEEDS HELP!

Ivy League student, gay activist, writer, really nice guy—may not be able to afford tuition. Ideas, patrons, suggestions...write soon to: AMR, 76 Undercliff, Millburn, NJ 07041.

**DADDY ENEMAS!!** Ass-play tool. Safe, gentle, sensual and erotic! I cater to shy, curious guys & beginners too. Get ready for the red, bulging bag, hose and nozzle—briefs down, bottoms up! All questions answered! Phph, Rick P.O. Box 45 Caldwell, NJ 07006. Cum on, try one soon!

**TOP GUN** Boy wanted 18-25 by GWM-170 lbs., 5'11", Br/Br, clean-shaven, smooth, Italian. I have most everything I could want except you. Enjoy NYC, travel, gym, dining out and fun times. If you are young and hot, write to Joey, P.O. Box

1040, Bloomfield, NJ 07003. Photo and phone please. No games and noone over 30.

**LONELY IN NJ** Very good-looking GWM, 6', 168, friendly, easy to be with, seeks GWM, 18-30, slim and friendly who is also lonely and needs a friend. I'm very attractive so write for my photo. Box 8316, Saddlebrook, NJ 07662.

**GWF, 40's, 5'3"** 110, professional, looking for a good friend to enjoy NYC. No drugs, heavy drinkers, butch or fat. Note/photo/ photo. French speaking a plus. Sense of humor a must. Prefer 30-45, Manhattan. Basket cases abstain.

**HEY MATT AND BART!** GWM, 34, 5'10", 175, muscular, very handsome, looking for well-defined gymnast types or BB's for afternoon get-togethers. Let's have a hot, safe time. Reply to Box 306, Bklyn, NY 11217.

**NEW FRIEND** and confidante sought by easy-going GWM, 32, who enjoys Broadway, home cooking, movies and Light FM and is ready to meet someone new. Box 140 c/o 4712 Avenue N, Brooklyn, NY 11234.

**SUBMIT TO ME** Let me take you where your fantasies will consume you and leave you in a whimpering, quivering pile of flesh. Let's explore your desire to submit to a hot, sadistically depraved 24 year old

GWM. Let's explore the fantasies that you've only reached alone at night... craving to submit to me and become my slave. Send photo/phone. Outweek Box 1076.

**GWTPHEF** Techno-Pagan, Hedonistic, Eclectic Dyke seeks the unusual. Write what you will, say what you must, just tell me one thing—is there Life after Lust??? All womyn encouraged to respond. Outweek Box 1077.

**GWF, 29,** looking for friends. I love books and movies, walking around the Village and talking to interesting people. If it sounds like I am a bore, I assure you that I'm not. It's difficult to sound exciting in an ad but I promise to be uplifting when we meet. Give it a try. Outweek Box 1078.

**MASCULINE MEN** (25-55) GWM seeks dominant hunk. No hassles. SS only. No drugs, pot, heavy drinkers, hustlers. S. Westchester vicinity/parking. LSA 147 W. 42 St. Room 603, NYC 10036.

**GWM, 30, 6'1"**, slim, clean-shaven, light br. hr., bright, affectionate and possesses a unique blend of dry humor in social service profession, enjoys Art, Freud, left politics, movies, jazz vocalists, long walks and romantic times, seeks sim. non-smoking GM for friendship and possibly more. Letter/photo to Outweek Box 1080

**GWM, 25, 6', 145,** Brown/Blue, creative, handsome and affectionate seeks dark-haired hirsute man 25-35 for friendship/relationship. Body in prop, to height. Letter/photo (if poss.)/phone : P.O. Box 910, NY, NY 10014-0910.

**FAT AND FINE!** Handsome, romantic GWM 28, 5'11", 260, beard, has truck driver looks, Rimbaud mind. Sks a funny, creative and hot man, 25-35 for some safe sex and intense conversation. Please send letter, phone, and photo (if possible) to P.O. Box 1584, Cooper Station, NY, NY 10276. This could be it.

**TWO HOT GUYS!** Goodlooking white top, 33, Big cut tool and bottom, 29, smooth wild ass. Looking for 2 or more guys for hot sex in various combinations. Short on words, long on action. State your preference and lets get it on. Photo/phone a must. Tom, Box 950, NY, NY 10021.

**SUMO** 37 year old, muscular white male looking to start a relationship with older GWM over 50, with sumo build: large nipples and tits (not hairy). Send photo and description of self to Box 123 Exec. Suite, 330 West 42nd Street, NY, NY 10036.

**CULTURED TRADE** I love to be tied up with operas and whipped into a Broadway play, or even lashed to a good movie. I must be forced to drink Margaritas and submit to fine cuisine. I need someone to discipline me with love and friendship and bring out the best in me. I will willingly reciprocate. I'm a good-looking GWM, 38, 6', 190lbs, brown/brown, moustache, seeking a similar GWM. Send me your photo, phone number and a letter telling me about yourself and outlining your master plan to make me really sing! Reply to JNP, P.O. Box 39, Planetarium Station, NY, NY 10024.

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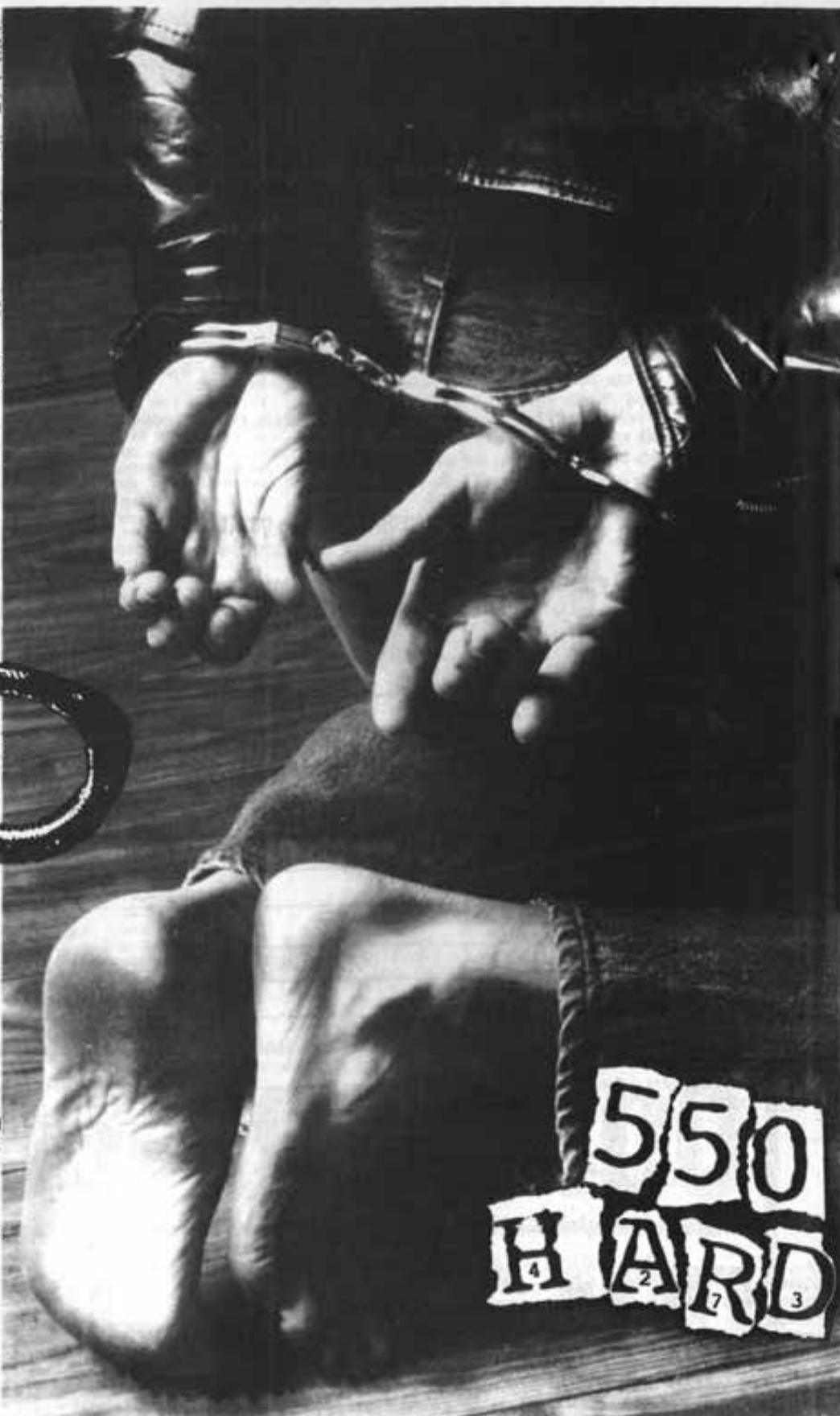
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# GOING OUT

## AN EVENTS CALENDAR

Send calendar items to:  
 Rick X, Going Out  
 Box 790  
 New York, NY 10108

Items must be received by Monday to be included in the following week's issue.

### TUESDAY AUGUST 8

**CELLBLOCK 28 Hands On Party**, 28 9th Ave (btwn 13 & 14 St), 8 pm - 3 am, \$10, 733-3144

### WEDNESDAY AUGUST 9

CENTER SPORTS goes to **Yankees vs. Cleveland Indians**; 7:30 pm; \$13 & \$18; 620-7310 for membership

CENTER STAGE sees **Show Off**, a cabaret revue at Steve McGraw's, 158 W 72 St, \$30, 620-7310

EAGLE BAR Movie Night: **Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451

### THURSDAY AUGUST 10

WHITNEY MUSEUM presents **Nigel Finch's 60-min. documentary on Robert Mapplethorpe**, Madison at 75 St, 2:30 pm, 570-3633

JUDITH'S ROOM presents **Maud Farrell, mystery writer**, reading from **Skid**, where you will "meet PI, Violet Childe, lover of women, men, food, as she moves through NY scenes

seeking the murderer of her father"; 681 Washington St (btwn Charles & 10th); 7 pm; free, seating limited; 727-7330

**CELLBLOCK 28 Hot Ash Anniversary Party**, 28 9th Ave (btwn 13 & 14 St), 8 pm - 3 am, \$10, 733-3144

### FRIDAY AUGUST 11

**MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER Consciousness Raising Session: How money Operates in Our Personal Relationships and Anger, What Sets Us Off and How We Deal with It**; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7:45 pm; 222-9745

**GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT Meeting and Discussion: ASOs & BGMs in NYC**, A Consumer Forum where gay men of color can learn about AIDS Service Organizations and their treatment (or neglect) of Black Gay Men and other gay men of color; representatives of nearly all NYC's AIDS and health organizations have been invited to attend; in the Charles Angel/People of Color Room, the Center (620-7310), 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; info 718/802-0162

**HOT PEACHES presents Concentrated Camp**, a newly revised production of the musical about an AIDS internment camp; at the Woo Woo Room, 40 Renwick St (off Spring St, btwn Hudson & Greenwich St); 8 & 11 pm; \$10; reservations 242-3056

prepared by Rick X  
 with information from  
 The Gay & Lesbian Switchboard of  
 New York

For more information or referrals, to rap, or to volunteer, call the GLSB daily, noon to midnight, 212-777-1800

### SATURDAY AUGUST 12

**WOMEN ABOUT Hike to Cascade of Slid in Harriman**; 353-0073, 201/481-0440

**PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION Singles' Tea; for PWAs, PWArCs, HIV+**; 222 W 11 St; 3-5:30 pm; 532-0568

**BROOKLYN LESBIANS TOGETHER Pot Luck**; 209 12th St; 5-121 pm; 718/788-3513, 718/439-7173, 718/439-3658

**LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND Benefit: Champagne Sunset in the Pines**, with pianist Kurt Wieting; candle-lit poolside dinner for underwriters follows; 6-9 pm; \$25 up; 995-8585

**DON'T TELL MAMA presents Hot Peaches**, with Jimmy Camicia, International Chrysis, Amy Coleman, Mark Hannay, Tom Judson, Ron Jones; benefit for their European tour; 343 W 46 St (btwn 8th & 9th Aves); 10 pm; \$10 + two-drink min.; reservations 757-0788

**THE ANNEX (TO THE CELLBLOCK) Hot Ash Weekend Party**, for cigar smokers and their admirers; 673 Hudson St (btwn 13 & 14 St); 10 pm; 627-1104

**DOWNSTAIRS AT TRG-CADERO presents Comedians Rick Burd, Lisa Kron, Danny McWilliams**; 368 Bleeker (near Charles); 10 pm; \$8 + 2-drink min.; 242-0636

### SUNDAY AUGUST 13

**WOMEN ABOUT Bronx Zoo and picnic trip**; 353-0073, 201/481-0440

**GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT Family Picnic**; info 718/852-0957 (Note: this event had originally been planned for July 16, then postponed)

**EIGHTY-EIGHT'S presents Mr. Ruby Rims**, female impersonator; 228 W 10 St; 8 pm; 924-0088

**MARS NEEDS MEN presents Kristy Rose & the Midnight Walkers** (12:45 am, latenight), and **Miss Shannon** (1:30 am, latenight); 13th St & Westside Highway; 691-6262

### TUESDAY AUGUST 15

**CENTER STAGE sees Other People's Money** at the Minetta Lane Theatre, Greenwich Village; 8 pm; \$42; 620-7310

**COALITION FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS Forum: Domestic Partnership Issues**, co-sponsored by the Family Diversity Coalition; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; 627-1398

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# Best Bets

## DANCING FOR MEN & WOMEN

### MONDAY

**Private Eyes** 12 W 21 St. 212/206-7770 (preppie; male strippers, 2-4-1 till midnight)

\***Mars Westside Highway** at 13 St. 212/691-6262 (mixed crowd, Monday nights began this summer)

### TUESDAY

**'Love Machine** Broadway at 17 St. 212/254-4005 (at the Underground)

**The Monster** 80 Grove St. at Sheridan Sq. 212/924-3557

### WEDNESDAY

**Club Lafayette** (Scott Currie & R. Couri Hay)

**Private Eyes** 12 W 21 St 206-7770 (Dallas and Sanker's CLUB BAD)

**Spectrum** 802 64 St. Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (free admission all night)

### THURSDAY

\***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Pl 212/674-7959 (has a new wave drag show)

\***Copacabana** 10 E 60 St 212/755-0610 (last Thu. of the month has Susanne Bartsch party)

\***Mars Westside Highway** at 13 St. 212/691-6262 (mixed gay/straight; Thursdays gayer than Fri & Sat)

**Spectrum** 802 64 St Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (free admission all night)

### FRIDAY

\***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Pl. 212/674-7959

**Columbia Dances** Earl Hall, 116 St & B'way (1st Friday of every month)

\***Mars Westside Highway** at 13 st. 212/691-6262 (mixed gay/straight)

**Private Eyes** 12 W 21 st. 212/206-7770 (preppies and young professionals)

**Spectrum** 802 64 St Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (male and female strippers)

### SATURDAY

\***Boybar** 151/2 St Marks Pl. 212/674-7959

\***Mars Westside Highway** at 13 St. 212/691-6262 (mixed gay/straight)

**Private Eyes** 12W 21 St. 206-7770 (Club Chicago for Men, preppies)

**Spectrum** 802 64 St. Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (guest performer night)

### SUNDAY

\***Mars Westside Highway** at 13 St. 212/691-6262 (Chip Duckett's "Mars Needs Men" night)

\***Pyramid** 101 Ave A 212/420-1590 (Hapi Phace and Drag + Variety Show)

**Spectrum** 802 64 St. 718/238-8213 (show; free admission)

### EVERY NIGHT

**Monster, Spectrum** (mixed G&L), **Tracks** (exc. MON)

\* (TVs welcome)

## WOMEN-PREFERRED DANCING

### NOTE:

Party events are subject to change.

### MONDAY

**MK** 204 5 Ave at 25 St. 212/779-1340 (Deb Parker's women's night)

### TUESDAY

**Hatfield's** 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens, Queens 718/261-8484

### WEDNESDAY

**Bedrock** 121 Woodfield Road, West Hempstead, LI 516/486-9516

**Bedrox** 316 W 49 St. 212/410-5887

### THURSDAY

**Bedrock** 121 Woodfield Road, West Hempstead, LI 516/486-9516

**Club Lafayette** (Shescape, "Downtown Girls")

### FRIDAY

**Bedrock** (West Hempstead, LI)

**Tracks** 531 W 19 St. 212/627-2333 (last Friday of month)

**Cheeks** 2000 Long Beach Rd. Island Park, LI 516-431-5700

**Octagon** 555 W 33 St 212/947-0400 (Shescape)

**Visions** 56-01 Queens Blvd. Woodside 718/846-7131

### SATURDAY

**Bedrock** 121 Woodfield Rd., West Hempstead 516-486-9516

**The Center** 208 W 13 St. 212/620-7310 (2nd and 4th Saturdays, & special events)

**Club Lafayette** (Shescape event, "Summer Saturdays")

**Silver Lining** 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Pk, LI 516-354-9641 (a.k.a. "The Lining")

**Starz** (Deer Park, LI)

**West 610** 610 W 56 St. 212/410-5887

### SUNDAY

**Bedrock** (West Hempstead, LI)

"**Hers & Hers**" at Downtown 666 Broadway at Bond St. 212/979-1500 (every other Sunday only)

**Lads** 130 West Pond Rd. (Rt 22) White Plains 914-683-5353

**Paradise** 15 Waverly Pl 212/696-5555 (a.k.a. "Club Paradise")

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**LATIN AMERICA** continued from page 19  
media without negativity for the first time," Hernandez said.

Other Mexican groups in attendance included the AIDS organizations *Voz Humana* (Human Voice) and Mexicans Against AIDS, as well as Guerrilla Gay, an organization which, according to representative Marco Osorio, "tries to raise the consistencies of those who go to bars via...workshops on sexology, homosexuality and lust."

From Peru came MOHL, the Homosexual Pride Liberation Movement. Spokeswoman "Rebeca" told conferees that social pressure in Peru forces many gay men and lesbians into heterosexual marriages.

The gay moment has been disrupted since 1980 by a civil war that has taken 10,000 lives, Rebeca said, "and the sensationalism and disinformation of AIDS has created a huge panic so that gay and lesbian people have, for example, been expelled from hospitals."

Still, there are 12 gay discos in Lima, Rebeca said, one of them exclusively for women, and MOHL is an official, registered organization. "However," she added, "it's only registered under its initials and the authorities don't know what the 'H' stands for." The group offers medical and legal assistance, HIV and other medical testing, and operates an infor-



**PUTTING THE MOVEMENT ON HOLD**  
*Mexico's Jorge Romero* Photo: Rex Wockner



**CRYING FOR ARGENTINA**  
*ILGA protesting kidnapping of gay men by Argentine police*

Photo: Rex Wockner

**ARGENTINA** continued from page 19

The police harassment of gays and lesbians in Argentine cities has only complicated the severe economic and social problems facing CHA and the country's homosexual movement. CHA is U.S. \$600 behind on its rent, electricity and taxes; and a dramatically soaring inflation rate has placed condoms out of reach for more than 99% of the country's citizens.

mation center.

Chile was represented by "Lilian" of the lesbian-feminist group Ayuguellen. She said there are no gay male activists in Chile because men are afraid to come out of the closet.

"We work underground," Lilian said, "workshops on consciousness, lesbian sports clubs. Thanks to [money from] ILGA, our bulletin is almost ready to come out. It will be called *Corrientes de aire* [Air Currents]."

There is no public treatment available in Chile for persons with AIDS, according to Ayuguellen. "If they are among the few who have money, they go to a private hospital," Lilian said. "Otherwise, they go home."

Still, Lilian said AIDS at least offers hope of some organizing by gay men, "but only purely around medical issues."

Santiago has one gay bar that has not yet been closed by authorities.

"We would like to keep our correspondence up," said Valido, "but the financial crisis can make us unable to answer because of the high price of postage."

Our situation is desperate," Valido continued. "We're frightened to go in the streets, the bars and discos are being permanently closed and it's not safe for us to protest on our own behalf." ▼

-Rex Wockner

Representing Brazil was Antonio Luiz of the group Atoba. Although the organization is multi-faceted, Luiz said he was proudest of the group's distribution of condoms in gay men's bars and cruising places.

Brazil has more than 100 gay and lesbian organizations which hold an annual conference every January in Rio de Janeiro.

Finally, Argentina's *Comunidad Homosexual Argentina* [CHA] was represented by Emmanuel Valido. Although the socio-political climate for gays and lesbians is repressive throughout Latin America, the horror stories told by Valido led to the conference's only demonstration [see story].

According to activists, police regularly arrest patrons of gay bars and harass gay men on the street.

According to Valido, CHA is months behind on its rent, electricity and taxes, and desperately needs condoms which, he said, are so expensive that less than one percent of gay men can buy them. ▼



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#### SEX SURVEY continued from page 20

Smith. "There is no control as to what researchers are going to research."

As with the sex survey funds, hopes for specific AIDS research funding are now being pinned on the Senate appropriations subcommittee where, now knowing what is in the bill, AIDS activists will battle for funds specifically earmarked for AIDS research.

The Labor HHS Appropriations Bill is set to be voted on in the house in early August. Serious Senate action is not scheduled to begin until September.

The decision to cut the funding was made by members of the House Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Subcommittee and approved by the full House Appropriations Committee.

The members of the subcommittee are Reps. William H. Natcher (D-Bowling Green, KY) [Chair], Neal Smith (D-Des Moines, IA), David R. Obey (D-Wausau, WI), Edward R. Roybal (D-Los Angeles, CA), Louis Stokes (D-Cleveland, OH), Joseph D. Early (D-Worcester, MA), Bernard J. Dwyer (D-Perth Amboy, NJ), Steny Hoyer (D-Landover, MD), Silvio Conte (R-Pittsfield, MA), Carl D. Pursell (R-Ann Arbor, MI), John E. Porter (R-Deerfield, IL), C.W. "Bill" Young (R-St. Petersburg, FL) and Vin Weber (R-New Ulm, MN).

As the subcommittee hearings are closed, there is no record as to the actions, motions or votes of any of the subcommittee members on the bill. Historically, in the House, whatever comes out of the Appropriations subcommittees is agreed to in full committee and on the House floor. ▼

#### DANNEMEYER continued from page 23

"vegetables" and "lightbulbs" in each other's rectums—Frank asked Dannemeyer a rhetorical question.

"I just wonder," asked a smirking Frank, "having read the material the gentleman from California put in the *Congressional Record* on June 26th, whether the material he put in the *Record* would be illegal under his own amendment?" ▼

—by Cliff O'Neill

#### DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP continued from page 24

and Erskine maintain this Chinese-language version of the repeal petitions "misstated the effect of the ordinance" and is "false and misleading."

According to declarations filed with their court appeal, signature-gatherers also told voters that the law would lead to higher taxes to pay for health benefits for partners and would be "the first step to allowing homosexuals to adopt children." The city controller's office, however, has declared the legislation would not cost taxpayers anything because any increased insurance costs would be the responsibility of city employees. The ordinance makes no reference to adoption.

While ballot initiatives and repeal petitions are often the target of charges of improper signature gathering, it is unusual for critics to seek legal sanctions as Bologna and Erskine have. Because the repeal petitions were aimed at legislation that had already been enacted, the city attorney's office was unable to say at this time what effect a court order to decertify the petitions would have. One of two things seems likely: either the law would immediately take effect and would not therefore be subject to another repeal move, or a 30-day waiting period would go into effect during which new repeal petitions could be filed. ▼



#### TRASHING TRASH TV

Last year's protest against *Midnight Caller* at KRON, in San Francisco

Photo: Rink Foto

#### MIDNIGHT CALLER continued from page 24

Script writers for the episode have also spent time visiting the Coming Home hospice for PWAs, spoken with doctors about treatment issues and talked with a number of women with

AIDS about their experiences.

Lorimar's Singer said a script draft would be prepared shortly and would be distributed to representatives of the three AIDS groups for their comments. ▼

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3. **USE DENTAL DAMS DURING ORAL-VAGINAL SEX.** HIV is present in some amounts in vaginal secretions, urine, menstrual blood, and infection-related vaginal discharge.
4. **NEVER SHARE WORKS.** This includes needles, syringes, droppers, spoons, cottons or cookers. If you must reuse works, clean them after each use with bleach, or in an emergency with rubbing alcohol or vodka, by drawing the solution into the needle three times and then drawing clean water into the needle three times.
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7. **AVOID EXCESSIVE ALCOHOL OR DRUG USE.** Many people are unable to maintain safer sex practices after getting high.
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Remember, sex is good, and gay sex is great. Don't avoid sex, just avoid the virus. Learn to eroticize safer sex and you can protect others, remain safe and have fun.

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# Sports

## Metropolitan Tennis Group

by Brian Hamlin

One of the fastest growing groups on the lesbian and gay sports scene in New York is Metropolitan Tennis Group (MTG), a group of avid tennis buffs of all levels of skill. Organized in 1985, the group has grown to the point where it now boasts over 200 members and belongs to the United States Tennis Association.

MTA, which is open to anyone to join, has three levels of play: A-advanced, B-intermediate and, for those just starting out, C-beginners. Quentin Welch, a member since 1987, told me that "the club is a very informal organization and welcomes all" regardless of skill level.

The group gets together for practice at various locations. One, for example, is Fort Washington Park under the George Washington Bridge. Finding and organizing places for practice is one of the functions of the group most helpful to its members, as there is limited court space in New York and a permit is almost always required to play.

In addition to actual play, social events are a major part of MTG's purpose. This Labor Day Weekend, for example, MTG is sponsoring their first annual trips to the US

Open Invitational. It has invited other gay and lesbian players from around the country to join in watching the matches and hope to establish this as a regular annual event. Some additional events planned for the weekend are a reception at Tracks disco, as well as a brunch barbecue, informal outdoor tennis and wide screen viewing of live US Open matches on their second day, and a full day at the Open on the third day.

MTG, which is a member organization of Team NY, will be participating in the Gay Games III in August of 1990 at Vancouver. At the previous Gay Games in San Francisco two members of MTG brought home gold and silver medals. Anyone interested in joining the team, or for any information on MTG, can call their Hot Line number, 212/662-0695.



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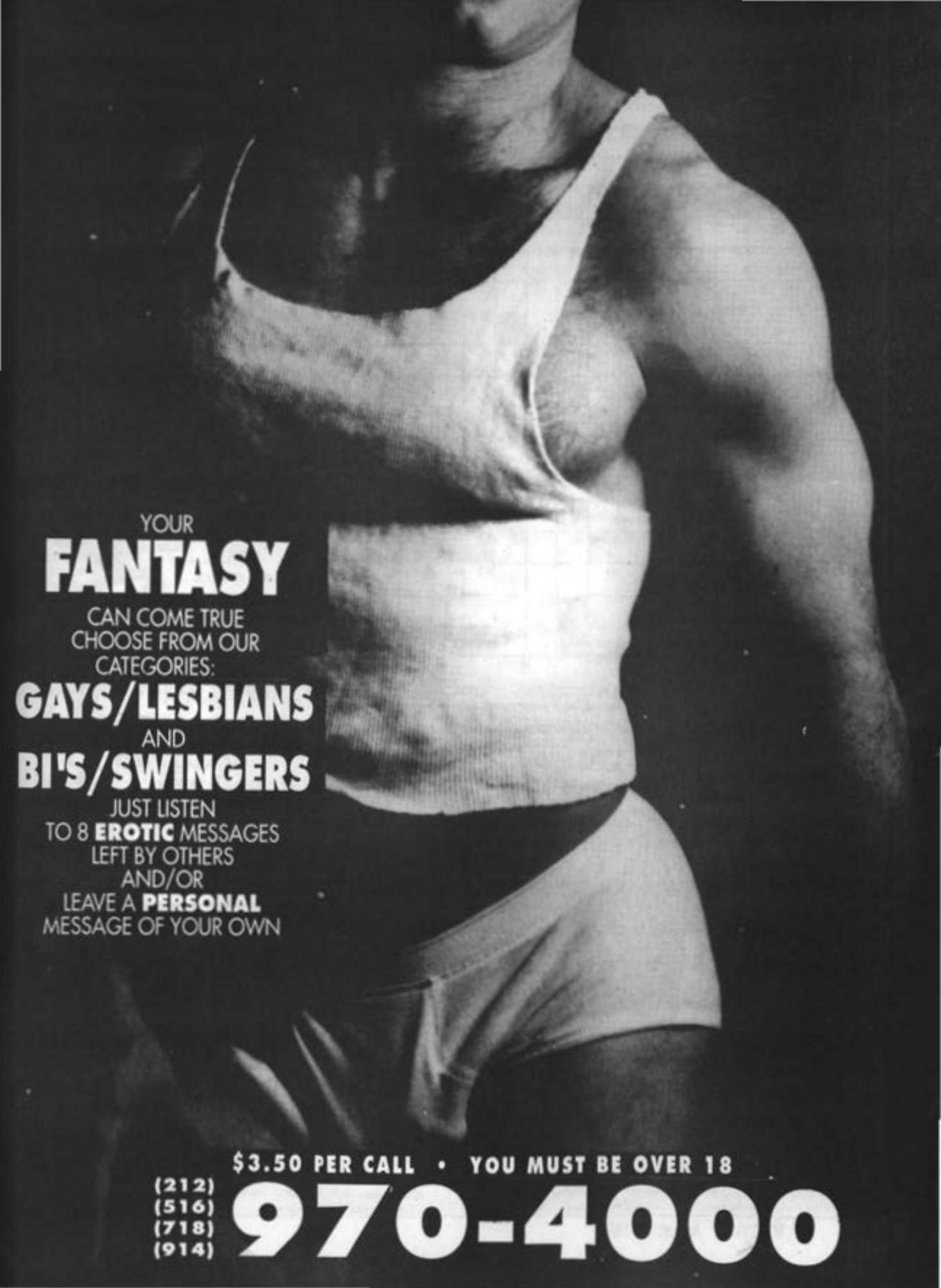
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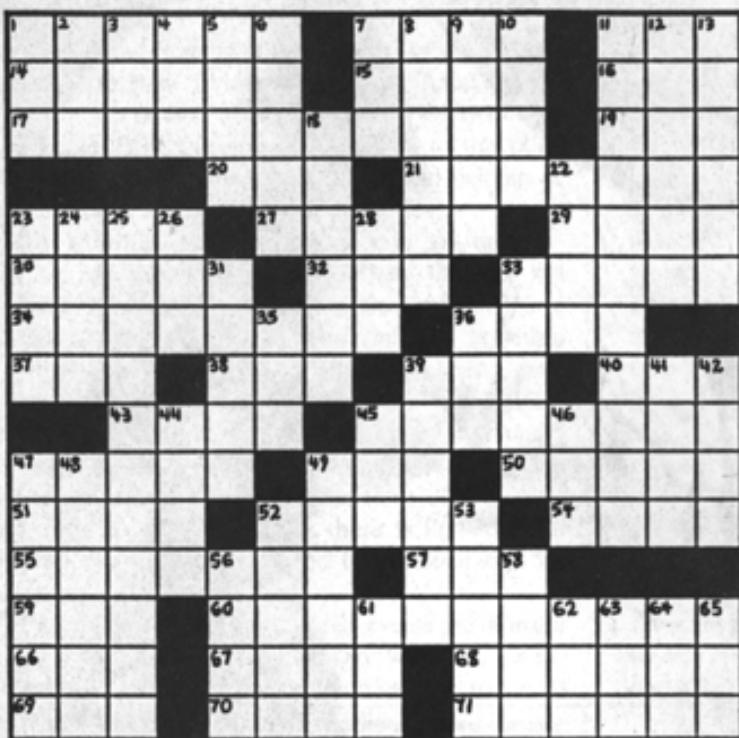
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# OutWeek Crossword

by Phil Greco

Edited by Gabriel Rotello



SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S OUTWEEK ON SALE TUESDAY

ACROSS

1. Porn star Grant
7. Gay actor's first name
11. Porn star Tom
14. Once in \_\_\_\_ (2 wds.)
15. Modern Siamese
16. Comb. form with Asian
17. *La Cage* star
19. Sugary suffix
20. Fuss
21. Exams
23. Carnaby streeters
27. Place
29. Cafe au \_\_\_\_
30. Tenor solos
32. Actor Marshall's initials.
33. Cautions
34. He played gay opposite Sophie
36. \_\_\_\_ job
37. Eland
38. Mothers
39. Negative prefix
40. Zipper

### 43. Raised

45. Half of an Andrews' part  
 47. Sing  
 49. *Legs Diamond* review  
 50. Purloin  
 51. Symbol  
 52. Consumer  
 54. *Pericles, Prince of* \_\_\_\_\_  
 55. Stony or a rock star  
 57. Inches on Stryker  
 59. *La* \_\_\_\_\_  
 60. *La Cage* composer  
 66. Aril  
 67. Friend, to Albin  
 68. Protozoan  
 69. Compass dir.  
 70. Suggestive  
 71. Gr/p &/or Fr/a

## DOWN

1. Joke
2. Be in debt
3. Greek letter

4. Supvr.
5. \_\_\_\_ San Juan
6. *As Long As He* \_\_\_\_ Me
7. Rd.
8. Scarlett, et. al.
9. Took an interest
10. Porn star Jon
11. *Boys In The Band* actor
12. Texas city
13. Wrings
18. Inns
22. Gusto
23. Other work by 60 across
24. \_\_\_\_ fixation
25. *Death In Venice* star
26. Scrotum
28. Self
31. Bodily fluid
33. Desires
35. Boy
36. Ad \_\_\_\_
39. Next year
41. *Billy* \_\_\_\_
42. CT school
44. *Giovanni's* \_\_\_\_
45. Tun
46. Mel \_\_\_\_
47. Braces
48. Cowboy events
49. Actor Knowles
52. Fetish item for some
53. Restoration
56. Open
58. Nautilus captain
61. Actor Alejandro
62. Decay
63. Faced
64. Austral native
65. Slang for recent war loca

**SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE**



HardCore To  
Domination On Is  
Bondage UND IC  
HOT WAX Chains W  
HANDcuffs B&D L  
Glory HOle FIST!  
Slave BOObS FF  
MILky Heavy t

ON D C E  
AUNCH B J T  
F'cking  
Stress Hardcore  
G's Masturbation  
Moore B & D

Heavy t  
Boob's

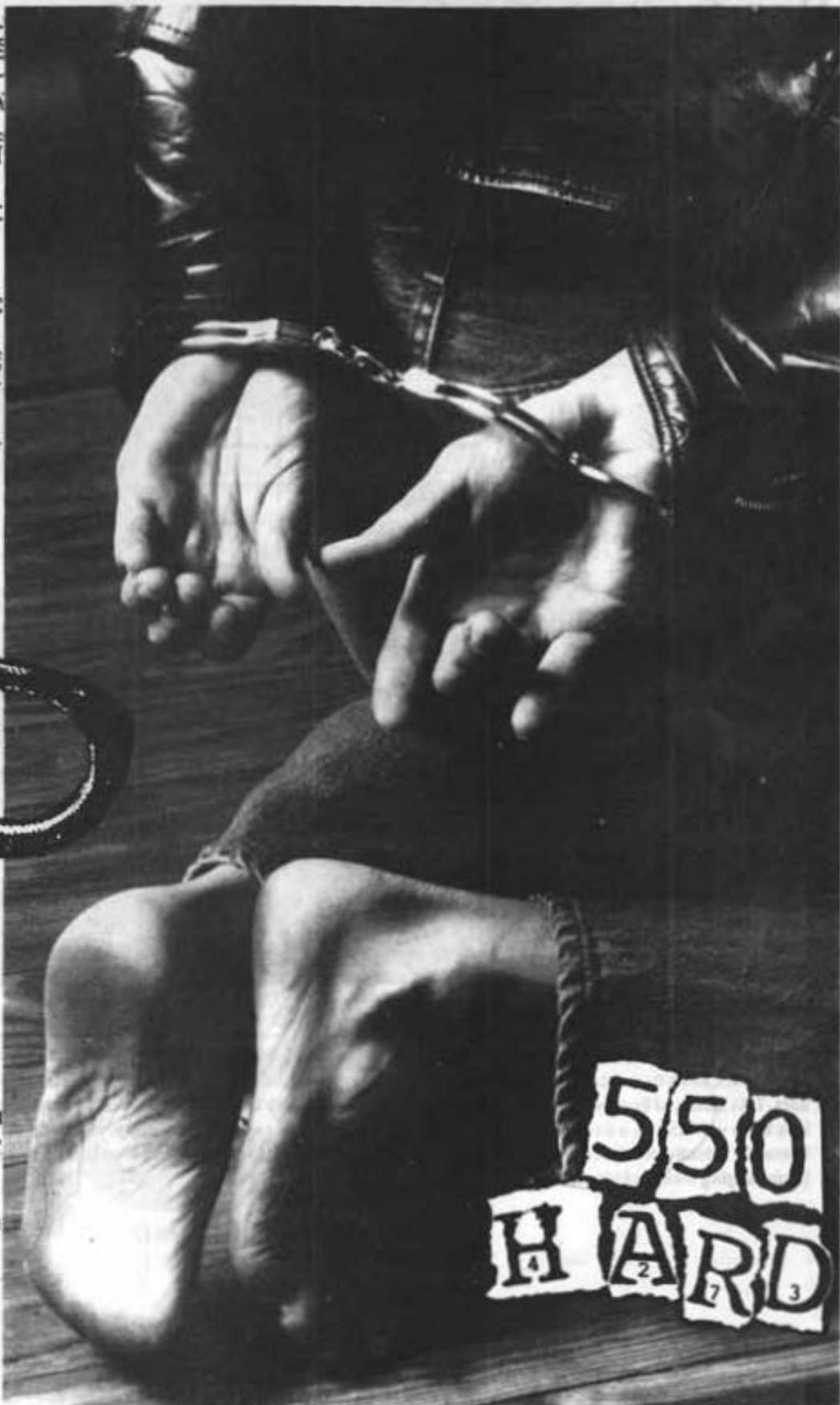
WAX  
ufst B&D L  
Hole FIST!  
Boob's FF  
ary

DGE  
D A G E.  
(212, 718, 516, 914)  
H B It's a T  
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+

The Ultimate in Ha  
In HardCore Ultima  
HARDCORE

"Where thE TOmen  
WhERe ThE TOmen an  
10¢ per minute/20  
1st Minutte 20¢/10  
100% Gay OWNed/ope  
gay owned/operated  
CALL . CALL  
550HARD



550  
HARD

# Hot Shot

by Erich Conrad

Photo by Lizzerd Souffle



Quentin Crisp, the grandfather of camp, revolutionized gay sensibilities with his classic autobiography *The Naked Civil Servant*. It's been translated into eight languages, three movies and countless fashion statements, scarves and floppy hats. This queen of England moved to New York several years ago because "in America everybody's your friend." Lately he's been working on a book full of juicy tidbits about those very same friends, and we hear its very crisp indeed. Currently Quentin can be seen in the Art Against AIDS video (look for the flaming blue hair), and he keeps busy in projects ranging from underground films to college lectures. Carry on, Quentin.

# **Gay Cable Network salutes the 20th Anniversary of Stonewall.**

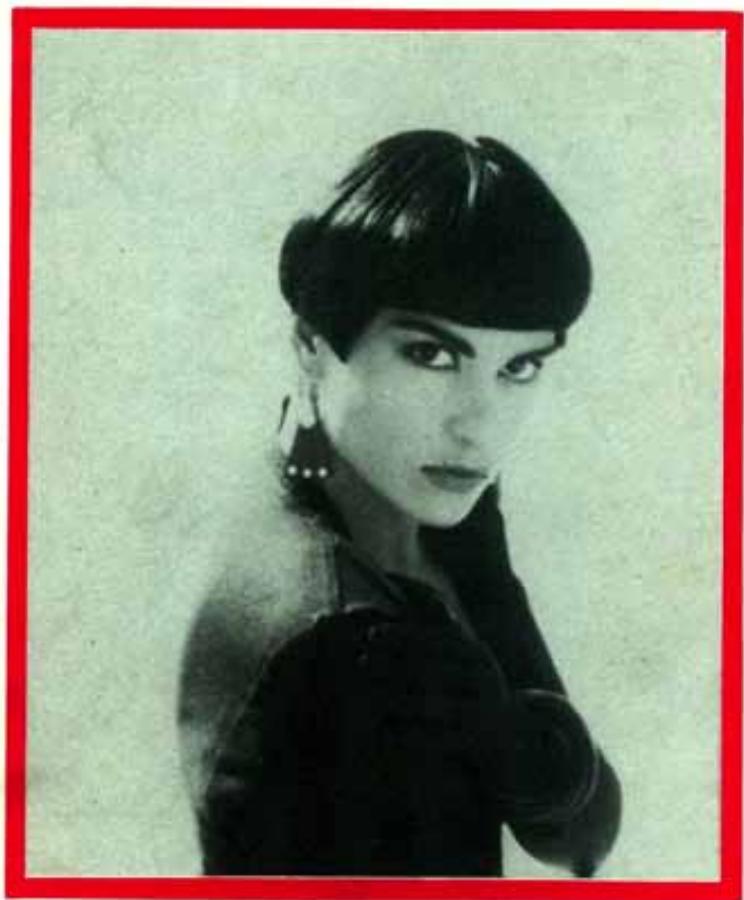
*Turn on our programs every week  
on Manhattan Cable, Channel 23 (J)*

<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>Pride &amp; Progress</b>	<b>August 10</b>
10:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gay Week in Review</li><li>• Act-Up</li><li>• GCN Close-Up</li><li>• Sports</li><li>• Lavender Health</li></ul>	Exclusive Interview With David Dinkins, Borough President and Mayoral Candidate, By A Blue Ribbon Panel
11:00 pm	<b>The Right Stuff</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Naming Names</li><li>• All About Women</li><li>• Media Watch</li><li>• Staying Out</li><li>• Around the Country</li></ul>	Tom Hickey, Esq.—Family Diversity Coalition Julie Green—FAIRPAC Aurelio Font—Hispanic United Gays Arthur Strickler—Chair, Community Board 2
<b>Sundays</b>	<b>Men &amp; Films</b>	<b>August 13</b>
11:30 pm	Reviews of male erotica along with interviews behind the scenes with film stars	Behind the Scenes Footage From A New Video—"The Men from 550."
<b>Mondays</b>	<b>Be My Guest</b>	<b>August 14</b>
10:00 pm	<b>Sybil Bruncheon</b> hosts a panel game show with surprise guests. <b>Frankie Loves Johnny</b> An original gay soap opera.	Sybil's Guest is Boris Karloff Episode #9



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